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# REPORTS

FROM

# COMMISSIONERS:

*TWENTY VOLUMES.*

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—*(18.)*—

## CONVICT PRISONS; MILITARY PRISONS;

PRISONS (SCOTLAND).
This Report being of a folio size is bound up at the end of Vol XXXVII, Part. I.

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Session

31 *January* —— 29 *July* 1856.

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# VOL. XXXV.

# REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

## 1856.

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*TWENTY VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE*

## EIGHTEENTH VOLUME.

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### CONVICT PRISONS:


[26.] REPORTS of the Directors of Convict Prisons on the Discipline and Management of Pentonville, Parkhurst, and Millbank Prisons, and of Portland, Portsmouth, Dartmoor, and Brixton Prisons, and the Hulks, for the Year 1855 - - - p. 1


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Bound at the end of Vol XXXVII, Part I.

# REPORTS

OF THE

# DIRECTORS OF CONVICT PRISONS

ON THE

## DISCIPLINE AND MANAGEMENT

OF

## PENTONVILLE, PARKHURST, AND MILLBANK PRISONS,

AND OF

## PORTLAND, PORTSMOUTH, DARTMOOR, AND BRIXTON PRISONS, AND THE HULKS,

**For the Year 1855.**

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.*

LONDON:
PRINTED BY GEORGE E. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1856.

[2126]

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# REPORT

OF THE

# DIRECTORS OF CONVICT PRISONS

ON THE

## DISCIPLINE AND MANAGEMENT

OF

# PENTONVILLE PRISON.

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# PENTONVILLE PRISON.

## REPORT,

For the Year 1855, of the Directors of the Convict Prisons, made, as regards Pentonville Prison, in pursuance of the Act 5 Vict. cap. 29. sec. 13;—specifying the State of the Buildings, the Behaviour and Conduct of the Officers of the Prison, and of the Convicts, the Amount of the Earnings of the Convicts, and the Expense of the Prison; and such other Matters relating to the Discipline and Management thereof, as they shall deem expedient, or the Secretary of State shall direct.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.*

To the Right Honourable Sir GEORGE GREY, G.C.B.,

*Secretary of State for the Home Department.*

Sir, 45, *Parliament Street*, 1856.

We beg to submit the following Report upon the subjects we are required to notice under the provisions of the above Act.

### *Buildings.*

Buildings.

The buildings are in substantial repair. During the last year no material alterations or additions have been made. The usual repairs have been carried on within the precincts by prisoners wherever their services could be made available consistently with due separation and safe custody.

### *Conduct of Officers.*

Conduct of officers.

The entire body of the officers have given general satisfaction.

### *Conduct of Prisoners.*

Conduct of prisoners.

The conduct of the prisoners has been much the same as in former years. With a daily average of 508 prisoners, there were 749 reports for misconduct, and 560 punishments awarded.

The admonitions amounted to 85, and 43 reports were dismissed. As usual, the greater number of punishments fell upon a few prisoners for repeated offences. The number of prisoners who escaped punishment altogether appears in the following Table, in comparison with those of former years:—

| Year. | Population in Prison. | Number of Prisoners not Punished. |
|---|---|---|
| 1850 | 1,222 | 996 |
| 1851 | 1,202 | 997 |
| 1852 | 1,278 | 993 |
| 1853 | 981 | 742 |
| 1854 | 925 | 662 |
| 1855 | 991 | 708 |

On the whole, therefore, we must regard the conduct of the prisoners measured by this test as satisfactory.

The details of offences and punishments appear in the Governor's Report, in the Appendix.

*Number and Disposal of Prisoners.*

Number and disposal of prisoners.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Remaining 31st December 1854 | 538 | |
| Admitted in the year 1855 | 453 | |
| | | 991 |
| These were disposed of as follows:— | | |
| Transferred to Portland Prison | 411 | |
| „ Porsmouth „ | 230 | |
| „ Dartmoor „ | 19 | |
| „ "Stirling Castle" Hulk | 7 | |
| „ "Warrior" „ | 34 | |
| „ "Defence" „ | 12 | |
| „ Oxford Castle Gaol | 1 | |
| „ Bethlem Hospital (insane) | 2 | |
| Pardoned free | 1 | |
| „ conditional | 3 | |
| „ on licence | 1 | |
| Died | 5 | |
| Committed suicide | 1 | |
| Discharged (sentence expired) | 1 | |
| Embarked in the "William Hammond" for further probation in Western Australia | 1 | |
| Embarked in the "Stag" with ticket-of-leave for Western Australia | 1 | |
| | 730 | |
| Remaining 31st December 1855 | 261 | |
| | | 991 |

The daily average number was 508.

*Ages—*

Ages.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 43 | were under the age of | 17 | years. | | | |
| 212 | were between | „ | 17 | and 25 | years. | |
| 69 | „ | „ | 25 | „ 30 | „ | |
| 40 | „ | „ | 30 | „ 35 | „ | |
| 30 | „ | „ | 35 | „ 40 | „ | |
| 16 | „ | „ | 40 | „ 45 | „ | |
| 18 | „ | „ | 45 | „ 50 | „ | |
| 14 | „ | „ | 50 | „ 55 | „ | |
| 8 | „ | „ | 55 | „ 60 | „ | |
| 3 | „ | „ | 60 | „ 65 | „ | |
| 453 | | | | | | |

## *Expenses of the Prison, and Convicts' productive Labour.*

Prison expenses

A statement of the expenditure for the year ending 31st March 1856 is given in the Appendix, page 18, by which it appears that the total cost, exclusive of buildings, amounted to 15,295*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, which was reduced by receipts and productive labour to 14,379*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*

A statement in detail of the articles made and repaired by the prisoners is given in the Governor's Report, Appendix, page 17. together with a table exhibiting the average number of prisoners employed in each trade, and the estimated amount of their earnings.

Considering that separate confinement is strictly enforced, the particulars given in the following return afford satisfactory proof of industry.

STATEMENT showing the Average NUMBER of PRISONERS employed in each Trade, and the estimated Amount of Earnings per Prisoner.

| Average Number of Prisoners employed. | Trades. | Total Earnings. | Average Earnings per Prisoner. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| 196 | Tailors - - - | 1,240 14 1 | 6 6 7 |
| 94 | Weavers - - - | 1,179 15 9 | 12 11 0 |
| 95 | Shoemakers - - | 806 19 8½ | 8 9 10½ |
| 76 | Matmakers - - - | 354 8 0¼ | 4 13 3 |
| 15 | Bricklayers, carpenters, and smiths - - | 117 7 4¼ | 7 16 5¾ |
| 9 | Cooks and bakers - | Nil. | Nil. |
| 18 | Sick, and prisoners employed as artizans on medical grounds - | Nil. | Nil. |
| 503 | | £3,699 4 11 | |

It will be noticed in the Governor's report that 72,699 yards of prison cloth were woven during the year. A greater quantity might have been manufactured; but owing to transportation having ceased, and liberty-clothing being necessarily substituted for prison clothing issued to convicts on ship-board, a large stock was accumulated. When the stock is reduced, a greater number of cloth looms will be set up, adequate, probably, to the entire supply of the convicts in this country. Although the article is made by prisoners new to the manufacture, and removed from the prison very soon after they attain a moderate degree of skill, it is of excellent quality, and has been found to last fully as long, under careful trials, as the best that we have hitherto purchased. The price is only estimated, but estimated on a fair basis, and the average earnings, viz., 12*l.* 11*s.* per prisoner for the 94 prisoners employed in weaving the prison cloth, shirting, towelling, and handkerchiefs, although the amount may appear large, faithfully represents the value of their labour.

### *Health and Mental Condition of the Prisoners.*

Health.

The Report by the Medical Officer in the Appendix contains the usual particulars of the sanitary condition of the prison.

The daily average of sick during the last year has been fewer than during the preceding year.

The average daily per-centage of sick since the opening of the prison is as follows:—

| Year. | Per cent. |
|---|---|
| For 8 years to 1851 included - - - | 3·34 |
| 1852 - - - - | 2·27 |
| 1853 - - - - | 2·18 |
| 1854 - - - - | 3·13 |
| 1855 - - - - | 2·77 |

### *Deaths.*

Deaths.

Five deaths occurred from ordinary disease. The particulars are given in the Medical Report, page 24, and tabled at page 32.

Mr. Bradley considers the mortality to be at a low rate, when compared with that of other prisons, or with that of the male adult population of the country, calculated upon the statistics given in the Registrar General's Report for 1847.

### *Medical Pardons and Removals.*

Medical pardons and removals.

No convict has been discharged from the prison during the year on medical grounds.

Two prisoners were sent to the invalid hulk, and one to Dartmoor, before the expiration of the ordinary period of separate confinement in Pentonville prison, in consequence of diseases from which they had suffered previous to admission.—*See* Appendix, page 33.

Twenty-three prisoners were transferred as invalids fit only for the performance of light labour, to Dartmoor, having gone through the ordinary course of discipline. Of these, only one appears to have been in really good health when admitted. The particulars are given at page 34.

### *Suicide and Attempts to commit Suicide.*

Suicide. One prisoner destroyed himself by hanging. The reason for his committing the act is by no means clear, as his health, mentally and otherwise, had been excellent; he was industrious and had made good progress under the schoolmaster; and his conduct had been exemplary.

Attempts at suicide. Two Chinese, sentenced to penal servitude for endeavouring to assassinate one of their own countrymen, attempted to hang themselves soon after reception; and, probably, the attempts would have been successfully repeated if they had been subjected to the ordinary discipline for a longer time. They were removed from the prison, and, with two others confined in Millbank prison for the same crime, sent back to their own country.

Two other prisoners attempted "suicide by strangulation" while under punishment in the dark cells. One had attempted suicide twice before.

### *Mental Disease.*

Insanity. Two prisoners were removed to Bethlem Hospital as insane, and one prisoner was in an insane state in the prison, but recovered there.

Four convicts were, also, disturbed, in some measure, in their intellects, though they might not have been regarded as actually insane. They were, however, restored to health by a suitable relaxation of discipline and medical treatment.

One prisoner was removed, on mental grounds, to public works. He had sustained an injury to his head long previously to his reception, and was regarded as likely to be injuriously affected by separate confinement.

Full particulars of the foregoing cases appear in the Medical Officer's Report.

No alteration has been made in the dietary.

Ventilation and drainage. The ventilation and drainage are reported to be good.

### *Religious and Moral Instruction.*

Religious and moral instruction.

The Chaplain's Report is given in the Appendix. We have nothing especially to observe in reference to his department.

### *Conclusion.*

Conclusion.

In all respects the discipline, management, and general arrangements, remain the same as they were at the termination of the preceding year.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servants,

J. Jebb, Colonel, R.E.,
*Chairman.*

D. O'Brien,
*Director of Convict Prisons.*

# APPENDIX.

## I.

## GOVERNOR'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN, *Pentonville Prison, January* 1, 1856.

I BEG to submit my report for the past year. Governor's Report.

*Subordinate Officers.*

The conduct of the subordinate officers has generally been satisfactory.

*State of the Buildings.*

The following alterations and additions have been made to the buildings, &c.:—

The roadway through the front court-yard hasbeen reconstructed, and stone channels added for carrying off the surface-water into drains. The prison wings and offices have been coloured internally. An extracting flue from the cells in D 4 ward has been carried into the main shaft in the roof, and is found to work well. An alarm-bell has been fixed in the guard-room with pulls in the corridor. The cesspools of the cottages have been filled in; improved closets substituted, and the drainage altered. Several of the water conduct-pipes to the cisterns, having been corroded, have been renewed. One of the kitchen boilers has been thoroughly repaired and reset. The tower has undergone some slight repairs, having been generally repaired last year, but it appears to defy all attempts to exclude the wet. One of the pathways at the southern approach to the prison has been renewed; gravel having been substituted for the original asphalte. The infirmary has been painted and whitened throughout. At the gasworks four new retorts have been set, and occasional repairs done to the furnaces, &c.

The buildings are in good repair, except as follows:—

The boundary wall requires to be pointed, the compo of the chapel, lodges, and terrace-walls to be renewed, and all walks within and without the boundary wall to be re-gravelled. The skylights in the wings, although lately painted, admit the wet, the under putty in many places having perished. The slated gallery floors in D 2 and 3 wards have been worn thin. The cell locks, bells, &c., require much attention, although not actually out of repair. Several of the cell basins and taps are greatly worn, and many of the water conduct-pipes are defective from corrosion.

Governor's Report.

*Number and Disposal of Prisoners.*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Remaining 31st December 1854 - - - | 538 | |
| Admitted in the year 1855 - - - - | 453 | |
| | | 991 |

These were disposed of as follows :

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Transferred to Portland Prison - - - | 411 | |
| „ Portsmouth „ - - - | 230 | |
| „ Dartmoor „ - - - | 19 | |
| Transferred to "Stirling Castle" Hulk - - | 7 | |
| „ "Warrior" „ - - | 34 | |
| „ "Defence" „ - - | 12 | |
| „ Oxford Castle Gaol - - - | 1 | |
| „ Bethlem Hospital (insane) - - | 2 | |
| Pardoned free - - - - - | 1 | |
| „ conditional - - - - | 3 | |
| „ on licence - - - - | 1 | |
| Died - - - - - - | 5 | |
| Committed suicide - - - - - | 1 | |
| Discharged (sentence expired) - - - | 1 | |
| Embarked in the "William Hammond" for further probation in Western Australia - - | 1 | |
| Embarked in the "Stag" with ticket-of-leave for Western Australia - - - - | 1 | |
| | 730 | |
| Remaining 31st December 1855 - - - | 261 | |
| | | 991 |

The daily average number was 508.

*Ages—*

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 43 | were under the age of | 17 | years. | | | |
| 212 | were between | „ | 17 | and | 25 | years. |
| 69 | „ | „ | 25 | „ | 30 | „ |
| 40 | „ | „ | 30 | „ | 35 | „ |
| 30 | „ | „ | 35 | „ | 40 | „ |
| 16 | „ | „ | 40 | „ | 45 | „ |
| 18 | „ | „ | 45 | „ | 50 | „ |
| 14 | „ | „ | 50 | „ | 55 | „ |
| 8 | „ | „ | 55 | „ | 60 | „ |
| 3 | „ | „ | 60 | „ | 65 | „ |
| 453 | | | | | | |

TABLE showing the Number of MONTHS' CONFINEMENT since CONVICTION in PENTONVILLE and other separate Prisons.

| Sentences. | Number of Months. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Total of Prisoners. | Average Time per Head. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 19 | 20 | | |
| TRANSPORTATION :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Life | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | 3 | – | 5 | 3 | 1 | – | – | – | 14 | * 12 Months 22¾ Days. |
| 21 Years | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | |
| 20 „ | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 5 | – | – | – | 15 | |
| 15 „ | – | 1 | – | – | – | 1 | 1 | – | 6 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 16 | 1 | 7 | – | – | – | 43 | |
| 14 „ | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 | – | – | – | 18 | |
| 10 „ | – | 1 | – | 1 | 2 | – | 4 | 2 | – | 1 | – | 2 | 7 | 7 | 25 | 3 | – | – | 55 | |
| 7 „ | – | 2 | – | – | 2 | 4 | 5 | – | 1 | 1 | 1 | – | 7 | 9 | 40 | 2 | – | – | 74 | |
| PENAL SERVITUDE :— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 years | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | |
| 10 „ | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 | 2 | – | – | – | 1 | – | 1 | – | 7 | |
| 8 „ | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | 7 | – | – | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | 13 | |
| 7 „ | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | 2 | |
| 6 „ | – | – | – | 3 | – | – | – | 3 | 26 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 18 | 9 | 14 | – | – | – | 85 | |
| 5 „ | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 4 | – | 7 | 2 | 9 | – | 3 | 1 | – | – | 26 | |
| 4 „ | 1 | 1 | – | 1 | – | 1 | 2 | 8 | 117 | 5 | 50 | 25 | 96 | 26 | 42 | – | – | – | 375 | |
| 2 „ | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | |
| Totals | 1 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 6 | 13 | 15 | 166 | 12 | 74 | 44 | 168 | 61 | 145 | 6 | 1 | – | 730 | |

* Of this period the first nine months were passed in separation, and the remainder in partial association, conformably with instructions issued by Lord Palmerston in 1854.

Governor's Report.

## *Penal Class.*

Of the above 730 prisoners, 36 having by misconduct forfeited their past service, were received from the various Government prisons and hulks to undergo a second probation.

The number so received, the prisons and hulks from which, and their final disposal are thus shown:—

| Whence received. | | Prisons or Hulks to which removed after Second Probation. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Prison or Hulk. | No. | Place. | No. |
| "Warrior" Hulk | 3 | Portsmouth Prison | 10 |
| "Defence" " | 3 | Portland " | 15 |
| Dartmoor Prison | 13 | Dartmoor " | 1 |
| Portsmouth " | 7 | "Stirling Castle" Hulk | 3 |
| Parkhurst " | 4 | "Warrior" " | 2 |
| Portland " | 4 | "Defence" " | 1 |
| Millbank " | 1 | Bethlehem Hospital | 1 |
| Dorchester Barracks | 1 | Discharged, sentence expired | 1 |
| | | Embarked for Western Australia for further probation | 1 |
| | | Died | 1 |
| | 36 | Total | 36 |

## *Prison Offences, Punishments, &c.*

NUMBER OF REPORTS, ADMONITIONS, AND PUNISHMENTS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Reports | | 749 |
| Punishments | 560 | |
| Additional offences embraced in the 560 punishments | 51 | |
| Total | 611 | |
| Not punished, on medical or other special grounds | 10 | |
| Admonitions | 85 | |
| Reports dismissed | 43 | |
| | 749 | |

*Offences*—

| | |
|---|---|
| Communicating by writing, at school, chapel, exercise, or in corridors | 61 |
| Communicating by talking at chapel, in school, at exercise, or in corridors | 158 |
| Communicating through water taps, knocking on cell walls, &c. | 59 |
| Disturbing chapel by talking aloud, shouting, whistling, mimicking Chaplain, or other irreverent conduct | 14 |
| Disturbing school, talking aloud, shouting, whistling, and mimicing schoolmasters | 12 |
| Carried forward | 304 |

Governor's Report.

| | |
|---|---|
| Brought forward | 304 |
| Refusing to work, to go to chapel or exercise, extinguishing gas, and other insubordinate acts | 134 |
| Writing on and wilfully destroying books, &c. | 33 |
| Writing obscene and filthy communications | 12 |
| Disturbing prison by shouting, whistling, singing, swearing, breaking furniture, and violence in the refractory ward | 30 |
| Ditto and violent ringing in cells | 21 |
| Assaulting and threatening officers | 41 |
| Threatening violence to medical officer | 3 |
| Wilfully breaking traps, ventilators, windows, or furniture | 19 |
| Making holes in cell windows for seeing out | 10 |
| Making holes in cell floor and concealing articles therein | 3 |
| Concealing in hammocks or on the person knives, tools, and articles to facilitate escape, or for assault, &c. | 9 |
| Wilfully cutting and destroying wearing apparel, &c. | 24 |
| Cutting and boring through chapel stalls | 6 |
| Wilfully destroying work materials | 9 |
| Misappropriating prison materials or property | 12 |
| Inciting other prisoners to laughter and breaches of the rules | 9 |
| Fighting or wrangling in association | 8 |
| Attempting suicide | 4 |
| Feigning suicide | 2 |
| Preferring false charges against officers | 6 |
| Purloining or exchanging bread, meat, &c. whilst in association as cooks, bakers, &c. | 15 |
| Disfiguring themselves by cutting their hair | 11 |
| Attempting or making preparation to escape | 3 |
| Setting fire to his bed | 1 |
| Having cells in a dirty state, and refusing to clean them | 3 |
| Having tobacco in possession | 11 |
| Having a newspaper in possession | 1 |
| Swallowing and destroying communication papers, and refusing to give up same | 5 |
| Reported offences | 749 |

| *Prisoners punished—* | No. of Prisoners. | No. of Punishments. |
|---|---|---|
| Once | 176 | 176 |
| Twice | 52 | 104 |
| Thrice | 19 | 57 |
| 4 times | 12 | 48 |
| 5 „ | 8 | 40 |
| 6 „ | 3 | 18 |
| 7 „ | 6 | 42 |
| 8 „ | 1 | 8 |
| 9 „ | 2 | 18 |
| 11 „ | 1 | 11 |
| 12 „ | 2 | 24 |
| 14 „ | 1 | 14 |
| | 283 | 560 |
| Not punished | 708 | |
| Total | 991 | |

TABLE showing the NATURE and DURATION of the PUNISHMENTS.

| NATURE OF PUNISHMENTS. | Number of Days. | | | | | | | | | Month. | Other Cases. | Total Punishments. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 10 | 21 | 30 | 1 | | |
| Close confinement, dark cell, punishment diet | 154 | 131 | 159 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | 452 |
| " " " and lose stripes | – | 6 | 11 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 17 |
| " " " " " and removed from working party in A Division | 17 | 3 | 15 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 35 |
| Close confinement, light cell, punishment diet | 1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 3 |
| " " own cell | 13 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | – | 2 | – | – | 29 |
| Withdrawn from association only | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 13 | 13 |
| Removed from working party in A Division only | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 7 | 7 |
| Kept from Chapel | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | 1 |
| Loss of stripes only | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 3 | 3 |
| | 185 | 146 | 188 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 23 | 560 |

STATEMENT of ARTICLES made and repaired by the Prisoners confined in Pentonville Prison, during the year 1855. Governor's Report.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **SHOEMAKERS:** | | | |
| Shoes, men's | made | 4,172 | pairs. |
| Ditto, women's | „ | 1,762 | „ |
| Boots, ancle | „ | 410 | „ |
| Slippers | „ | 148 | „ |
| Shoes, children's | „ | 110 | „ |
| Hammock-straps | „ | 3,482 | „ |
| Shoe-laces | „ | 2,100 | „ |
| Belts, officers' | „ | 15 | „ |
| Cocoa matting | bound | 152 | yards. |
| Shoes | repaired | 4,065 | pairs. |
| Knee caps | „ | 181 | „ |
| Hammock-straps | „ | 649 | „ |
| Hammock-heads | „ | 237 | „ |
| **TAILORS:** | | | |
| Jackets, prisoners' | made | 3,497 | |
| Waistcoats | „ | 2,259 | |
| Trowsers | „ | 4,518 | |
| Jackets, Liberty | „ | 1,268 | |
| Waistcoats | „ | 901 | |
| Trowsers | „ | 2,079 | |
| Coats, Infirmary | „ | 50 | |
| Trowsers | „ | 184 | |
| Coatees, flushing | „ | 1,181 | |
| Trowsers, military | „ | 1,204 | |
| Frocks, smock | „ | 323 | |
| Braces | „ | 2,399 | pairs. |
| Bags, kit | „ | 520 | |
| Aprons, stocks, caps, &c. | „ | 383 | |
| Hammocks | „ | 215 | |
| Beds and pillows | „ | 136 | |
| Hammock girths | „ | 612 | |
| Jackets, waistcoats, and trowsers | repaired | 3,398 | |
| Beds and pillows | „ | 476 | |
| Blankets, rugs, &c. | „ | 123 | |
| Caps | lined | 307 | |
| Shoes | bound | 75 | pairs. |
| **WEAVERS:** | | | |
| Prison-cloth | made | 72,699 | yards. |
| Shirting | „ | 9,444 | „ |
| Towelling | „ | 1,693 | „ |
| Handkerchiefs | „ | 351 | dozen. |
| **MAT-MAKERS:** | | | |
| Bordered mats | made | 2,401 | |
| Improved double thrumb | „ | 1,475 | |
| Sennot mats | „ | 148 | |
| Plain cocoa and brush ditto | „ | 747 | |
| Rugs and fancy ditto | „ | 93 | |
| Cocoa fibre matting | „ | 764 | yards. |
| Carpeting | „ | 303 | „ |
| Canvass | „ | 1,598 | „ |

Governor's Report.

STATEMENT showing the Average NUMBER of PRISONERS employed in each Trade, and the estimated Amount of Earnings per Prisoner.

| Average Number of Prisoners employed. | Trades. | Total Earnings. | Average Earnings per Prisoner. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| 196 | Tailors | 1,240 14 1 | 6 6 7 |
| 94 | Weavers | 1,179 15 9 | 12 11 0 |
| 95 | Shoemakers | 806 19 8½ | 8 9 10½ |
| 76 | Matmakers | 354 8 0¼ | 4 13 3 |
| 15 | Bricklayers, carpenters, and smiths | 117 7 4¼ | 7 16 5¾ |
| 9 | Cooks and bakers | Nil. | Nil. |
| 18 | Sick, and prisoners employed as artisans on medical grounds | Nil. | Nil. |
| 503 | | £3,699 4 11 | |

STATEMENT of the Expenditure of PENTONVILLE PRISON for the Year ended 31st March 1856.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Salaries of principal officers and clerks | 2,565 | 15 | 7 |
| Wages of subordinate officers and servants | 1,662 | 2 | 2 |
| Salaries and wages of manufacturing or labour department | 1,656 | 4 | 11 |
| Rations for officers, and allowances in lieu thereof | 521 | 12 | 8 |
| Uniforms for officers and servants | 151 | 14 | 6 |
| Victualling prisoners | 5,204 | 11 | 2 |
| Clothing, &c. for prisoners | 752 | 1 | 0 |
| Bedding for prisoners | 53 | 9 | 0 |
| Medicines, surgical instruments, &c. | 82 | 5 | 6 |
| Medical comforts (extras for the sick) | 75 | 3 | 7 |
| Clothing and travelling expenses of prisoners on their liberation | 46 | 16 | 2 |
| Furniture and fittings | 89 | 4 | 8 |
| Kitchen utensils, crockery, cutlery, &c. | 35 | 5 | 6 |
| Fuel and light for general purposes | 851 | 12 | 6 |
| Buildings, hulks, and ordinary repairs | 1,053 | 16 | 7 |
| Soap, scouring and cleaning articles | 171 | 16 | 2 |
| Brushes, brooms, and mops | 113 | 5 | 8 |
| Funeral expenses, inquests, &c. | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| Various small disbursements | 103 | 7 | 4½ |
| Rent, rates, and taxes | 91 | 12 | 0 |
| Total | 15,295 | 16 | 8½ |
| Deduct—Amount of sundry receipts and value of productive labour | 916 | 12 | 2 |
| Net expenditure | £14,379 | 4 | 6½ |

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
R. HOSKING.

*To the Directors and Chairman of Convict Prisons.*

## II.

## CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN, *Pentonville Prison, February* 1856.

Chaplain's Report.

HAVING last year reported at considerable length upon the subjects connected with my duties as Chaplain, I hope I shall be excused upon the present occasion from going into minute detail on the same matters; nor has anything occurred during the year deserving special observation as an exception to the usual character of educational or moral improvement of the convicts consigned to this prison.

Presuming upon your indulgence, I propose, therefore, to refer in his paper briefly to one or two points:—

I.—*Respecting the Education of the Convicts in Pentonville, especially the most ignorant.*

Our prisoners, you are aware, are distributed, on reception, into three classes, according to their education, viz., the sufficiently educated who require no help from the schoolmasters in the cell or school,—next, a middle class who attend school and are otherwise assisted by the schoolmasters, — and, thirdly, a lower one which requires and receives more help.

The 1st class consists of men who are acquainted with the higher rules of arithmetic and with other branches of knowledge in like degree.

The 2nd class, of men who have advanced in arithmetic as far as Proportion, and the 3rd or lowest class of men, who at the best, only know the first elements of arithmetic, but for the greater part are wholly untaught.

The proportion to the whole prison population of the first class is about one sixth, of the second class the same, and of the lowest about two thirds.

This third or lowest class (it will be seen by referring to the Table A. in the Appendix) is subdivided into three sections; the first part, as tested again by arithmetic, being acquainted with the compound rules, the second with the first four rules, and the lowest being men entirely ignorant of the subject.

The proportion in general which these parts severally bear to the whole, and the progress of each are seen pretty correctly in Table B. in the Appendix, which gives an account of 200 men removed in 1855.

Out of these men it will be observed that only nine upon removal were in the alphabet class. Of these cases of apparent failure two were Chinamen, who were moreover in Pentonville but a short time, three from blindness or other physical defect were incapable of being taught, and the remainder did not care to make any effort to learn.

Chaplain's Report.

The result on the whole as respects education may be regarded as satisfactory.

II.—*Respecting Prison Libraries.*

Books properly selected are great helps in cultivating the unpropitious soil in which chaplains and schoolmasters of prisons have to labour. They are an immense solace moreover, and often indeed an effectual mental support to the unhappy criminal, who is ready to give way to a gloomy and perhaps fatal despondency.

It is also in the present day a wonderfully cheap agency for good in a prison, as will be seen by reference to paper C in the Appendix, which shows the present arrangement in this particular in the convict service.

To provide wholesome mental aliment for a condemned prisoner, whom you want not only to punish, but if possible to reform, at the rate of 1*s.* 6*d.* per annum, the original cost of the library (which will last some three years, at the least, in tolerable condition,) being only 4*s.* 6*d.*, can scarcely be considered extravagant by any one; and yet for this sum we are able to obtain for 500 prisoners, or thereabouts, some two thousand volumes, or monthly parts, of readable and instructive magazines. You are aware, however, that the range of literature is too limited to satisfy some of my brethren in the ministry of the convict prisons, whose opinions are well worthy of consideration; but from the best attention I have been able to give to the subject, and to the objections which have been started on this point, I am persuaded that it is in itself a sufficiently ample allowance, and on as liberal a scale as your Board would probably feel able to justify to the country.

The great majority of the chaplains approve of the arrangement, and as books not defined may yet be applied for (although within the average cost) by each chaplain, we have the means of providing for special cases.

Should we seem unreasonable at any time in our application for books apparently above the requirements of our people, I trust you will bear in mind that such requisitions are the mere exceptions to the general rule; that it is a great matter often as regards the mental health of educated convicts to supply them with reading of a superior kind, and that in all cases (by the scheme which you have sanctioned) the officers of each prison have the reading of the books in the first instance.

Some will object probably on another ground, namely, that the greater part of the books are obtainable from the religious book societies of the metropolis at some loss to these important charities.

This objection, however, is more specious than real. As regards the secular books published by those societies, and probably the religious likewise, the societies having incurred the cost of production are benefited rather than otherwise by the additional sale, (even at their lowest price,) in our prison establishments.

Those beneficent institutions, in my opinion, should certainly not allow themselves to suffer loss by transactions with Government, or any party able to pay at a remunerating price, and I believe they do not in this case. This, however, is for those societies to consider,

and not for your honourable Board, which only treats with them through the Government contractor as a matter of mere business.

On the subject of books, I may further remark that where the term of imprisonment is not so long as in Pentonville, I should prefer on economical, and indeed, moral grounds, to the present circulating plan, the allowing to each convict the use of a certain number of volumes, educational and otherwise, according to his capacity, changing his books only as he advanced in his school class.

This would prolong the existence of the library in an efficient state to more than double the usual period, and prevent much evil, which must be noticed and punished in prisons. On such a plan very great care would be requisite in selecting the books.

The plan of supplying the officers of this prison with selected reading from the library before the books go into the prisoners' hands, has so far worked very well, and given much satisfaction.

The officers are allowed to take the books home, which constitutes their chief value; they return them after use regularly, and in excellent condition, and otherwise show their appreciation of the boon, which is yet so small a one to so deserving a body of men.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

*The Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

J. KINGSMILL, *Chaplain.*

## Appendix.

Chaplain's Report.

(A).—Plan of School Arrangements in Pentonville to economize Time for Industrial and Labour Purposes carried out since 1850.

1st Class.—To have no school-day, but to be free from labour every evening from 7 until 9 for their own further mental cultivation.

2d Class.—To have instead of two school-days as formerly in the week, two half days, namely, Wednesday and Friday, till noon, with the same hours each evening as the 1st class, namely, from 7 till 9.

3d or Lowest Class.—To have the same hours in each evening in the week for writing, &c., and only the school hours on the day devoted for the purpose at present, as follows :—

1st Division.—Tuesday, the four school hours, and Thursday from 2 till 4.

2d Division.—Monday the four school hours, and Thursday from 10 till 12.

3d Division.—Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 till 10 a.m., and Saturday from 10 till 12 ; also the afternoon of Wednesday and Friday.

This plan gives those prisoners eight hours school instruction instead of four, as before, weekly.

(B.)—Educational Status of Men removed from Pentonville Prison during 1855.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No. in 1st Class | - | on reception | 17, | on leaving | 29 |
| „ 2d Class | - | „ | 16 | „ | 64 |
| „ 3d Class, 1st Div. | | „ | 48 | „ | 57 |
| „ 3d Class, 2d Div. | | „ | 88 | „ | 41 |
| „ 3d Class, 3d Div. | | „ | 31 | „ | 9 |
| | | | 200 | | 200 |

(C.)—The general Plan of Libraries for Government Prisons, arranged so as to give most reading to the Convict in his course of discipline at the least expense.

### I.—*For Convicts in Separation.*

Religious Books.—From the Religious Tract Society lists, Paternoster Row.

Secular.—From Chambers' catalogues, with Penny Magazine in monthly parts, and Monthly Volumes of Religious Tract Society.

Works of a Mixed Character.—The Saturday Magazine in monthly parts, and works specially applied for by the Chaplain.

### II.—*For Convicts in Public Works.*

Church of England Magazine in monthly parts, with selected works from the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge.

From supplemental catalogue of Society for promoting Christian Knowledge (excepting the Saturday Magazine given in the first stage) ; the Leisure Hour in monthly parts ; Church Missionary Intelligencer and Gleaner, in monthly parts ; the Christian Treasury in monthly parts ; M'Cheyne's Tracts, and works specially applied for by the Chaplain.

### III.—*For Convicts on board Ship.*

Religious.—Ryle's Tracts and Home Truths ; Walker's Things, New and Old ; Mackenzie's (of Islington) Scripture Characters and other

works; the Rainbow in the North; Sketches in South India; Williams' Missionary Enterprise; Standard Religious Works and Tracts from preceding lists, &c. &c. Chaplain's Report.

Secular and Miscellaneous.—Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopedia; Murray's Home and Colonial Library; City Mission Magazine; Ragged School Union Magazine; Scottish Temperance Review; Dr. Carpenter's Prize Essay on Temperance; Guthrie's Tracts on Temperance; Working Men's Prize Essays on the Sabbath; Emigrants' Tracts, from lists of Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge; selected works from the catalogues of Longman, Routledge, and Groombridge.

Books for school purposes in all Government prisons, to be selected by the Chaplain of each prison from Groombridge's lists of the Irish National Board, the list of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, and Chambers' Educational Course, also from the works recommended by the Committee of Council on Education.

### IV.—*Library for Officers, including Schoolmasters.*

Works selected from the prisoners' collection which, after the officer's use, are to pass into the prison, with a few volumes and periodicals which may not be considered fit for prisoners, to be specially applied for by the Chaplain, including Doddridge's Exposition, Cruden's Concordance, and Reports of Committee of Council on Education, &c., for schoolmasters.

# III.

## MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN, *Pentonville Prison, January* 10, 1856.

Medical Officer's Report.

In compliance with the rules for the government of the prison, I have the honour to submit the Medical Report for the year 1855.

The total number of convicts subjected to imprisonment in Pentonville during the past year was 991; and their average daily number was 508.

Diseases occurring in the prison.

A list of all the diseases which have occurred among the prisoners will be found among the tables appended to the report (*vide* No. 3, page 30). The total number of cases was 1,881, of which 1,841 were treated in the cells, and 40 in the infirmary; of the latter 12 only are recorded as "grave" cases.

Of the "zymotic" diseases, if syphilis be excluded, there will remain but a solitary case of erysipelas, a sufficient proof that the great laws of hygienic medicine are conformed to, for wherever these are neglected or infringed diseases of this class will be found to prevail.

Of the affections of the brain and nervous system noticed in the table as occurring during the past year, no observation is required, except as regards the cases of mental affection, which will be separately remarked upon. Among the affections of the respiratory organs, and designated as "catarrh," are comprised a large number of trivial ailments, such as coughs and common colds; they constitute one fourth of the whole number of cases requiring medical treatment, and they occurred chiefly in the more inclement months of the year. Acute inflammatory affections of the lungs have been infrequent; and tubercular affections of the same organs have also been few in number.

Among the affections of the digestive organs will be found a large number classed as "constipation," which indicates the aggregate of simple purgative doses administered during the year. These cases, with irregularities of the bowels and other dyspeptic ailments, are somewhat numerous, and may be regarded as due to the want of variety in diet and occupation incidental to a prison life. The cases of diarrhœa were all of slight character and fewer than in former years, as the following table shows:—

| 10 years, from 1843 to 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Monthly mean - 16 | 12 | 15 | 7½ |

The cases of "struma" noticed in the table were cases of chronic enlargement of the glands about the neck, existing either on admission or occurring in prisoners who presented other evidence of a previous scrofulous tendency.

Medical Officer's Report.

The other diseases were none of them severe, and they possess no points in connection with the discipline of the prison to require comment.

Deaths.

There were five deaths from disease, and one suicide (*vide* Tables No. 4, page 32.) One death was from phthisis, in which symptoms began to appear after the twelfth month, and terminated in the nineteenth month of imprisonment here. The case did not admit of removal from the prison with any probability of advantage to the prisoner, and as he had no friends to support him in the event of being released, the disease necessarily ran its fatal course in the prison infirmary. In another case, symptoms of phthisis appeared seven months after admission, and the prisoner was recommended to be removed, but was carried off by an inflammation of the lungs which suddenly supervened. Another case also died from inflammation of the lungs, connected with the presence of miliary tubercle, which had been undoubtedly deposited for a considerable period prior to the admission of the prisoner, but up to the time of the inflammatory attack remained latent. In this case symptoms appeared about seven weeks after the prisoner's reception, and death occurred a fortnight later. The fourth death was from chronic bronchitis. The patient was an old man who suffered from an attack of this disease about a year after admission, from which he apparently recovered under treatment in the infirmary, but finally succumbed to a relapse of the complaint in the fifteenth month of his imprisonment. The last death was from jaundice, caused by the presence of hydatid cysts in the liver; these contained myriads of the Echinococcus, a minute globular-shaped worm, the germs of which, at some remote period of the life of the prisoner, had introduced themselves into his body. Similar animals have been commonly found to infest the viscera of sheep and cattle which are fed upon ill-drained and wet pastures. The prisoner was apparently well on admission, but began to suffer about five weeks afterwards, and died at the end of the fifth month of his imprisonment.

Pardons and licences on medical grounds.

No pardons or licences have been granted on medical grounds.

Removals on account of ill-health.

Three prisoners were removed to invalid prisons on account of ill health before the expiration of their term of separate confinement as suffering from disease with which they were affected when received into the prison (*vide* Table No. 6, page 33).

Removals to Dartmoor at end of term.

Twenty-three prisoners affected with disease or infirmity when admitted into Pentonville served their term of separate confinement, and were then transferred to Dartmoor as fit for light labour only. The particulars relating to these will be found in the tables (No. 7, page 34).

Daily per centage of sick.

The daily per centage of sick for the year 1855, as compared with former years, is given in the following table:—

| Mean of 10 years, 1843 to 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3·46 | 2·18 | 3·13 | 2·77 |

Rate of mortality.

The actual mortality from disease for 1855 was 9·83 per mille, a low rate when compared with other prisons or with the adult

Medical Officer's Report.

male population of this country; the latter giving a proportion of 15·92.*

Insanity.

*Mental Affections.*—Two cases of insanity have been removed to Bethlem Hospital; the following are the particulars thereof:—H. G., 5,960, attracted notice on admission by a peculiarity of manner, and in a short time afterwards his conduct and conversation were sufficiently strange to lead to doubts being entertained of his sanity. He was placed under observation and treatment in the infirmary, and eventually it became apparent that he was the subject of insane delusions. The results of inquiries into the previous history of the prisoner were at first obscure and contradictory; at length the following reliable account was obtained from the clergyman of his parish:—the prisoner, he stated, had been formerly an industrious and respectable man, a regular attendant at his church, but after sustaining heavy pecuniary losses, became dejected and "perplexed himself by an over curious reading of the Bible," and finally, without any assignable motive, fired a neighbour's haystack. Connecting this history with the delusions exhibited by the prisoner in Pentonville, there is much reason to believe that the crime of arson with which he was charged was committed under the influence of mental disease, but which required long continued and close observation for its detection.

G. W., 6,044, was received into Pentonville to undergo a second probationary period of separate confinement for extreme idleness and insubordination at the public works. From the first he refused to work, and obstinately persisted in that determination. He was at times violent and generally abusive; occasionally his conversation was such as to lead one to hesitate whether to refer it to audacity and impudence or to actual incoherence. The character given him by those who had had charge of him in other prisons was to the effect that he was idle, ill-conducted, and an impostor. He was placed in the infirmary under close surveillance for some months without any marked change, except that his conversation became more incoherent; but there were still many features, both in the history and general aspect of the case, which for a time justified a grave suspicion that the incoherence was simulated. At length, however, more decided indications of mental disease were developed, and the prisoner was removed from the prison as a lunatic. In the above cases, two of the most difficult to pronounce an opinion upon of any I recollect to have occurred during a medical experience of thirteen years at this prison, I had the advantage of obtaining the able assistance of Dr. Forbes Winslow, whose name as a psychologist is so well known.

F. M., 5,695, a prisoner sent here to undergo a second period of separate confinement, exhibited soon after his admission an irritable state of mind, and entertained groundless suspicions as regards his treatment by the officers. At one time he maintained that suffocating vapours were introduced at night into his cell through the air flues. Under the treatment employed the delusion disappeared, and his mind was restored to a healthy condition.

* As calculated for males between 15 and 60 upon the statistics given in the Registrar General's Report for 1847.

Four cases of "mental irritability" are noticed in the tables (p. 36). In two cases the prisoners suffered from dyspepsia, and imagined that their illness was caused by deleterious substances clandestinely mixed by the officers with the food supplied to them. The third fancied he was in the possession of an important secret connected with religious subjects, which he refused to disclose. The fourth asserted that he was made unhappy by being suspected and pointed out by the officers as guilty of vicious practices. Although it would appear from the above statement that delusions were observed in these cases, yet they were not sufficiently "fixed" or absurd to be regarded as *insane* delusions, but, nevertheless, were indications of a mental condition which, under adverse circumstances, would probably have terminated in actual mental disease. By suspending the discipline of separation, and using suitable moral and medical treatment, recovery to health was obtained, and the mind regained its equilibrium. Medical Officer's Report.

W. G., 5,971, hanged himself in his cell in the fourteenth month of his imprisonment here. He had never exhibited any indication of mental affection, and his health during the whole period of his confinement was perfect. He was industrious at his trade, and had made considerable progress under the schoolmaster. He had never been punished for a prison offence. After his death it was discovered that he had indulged the hope of soon regaining his liberty, which was annihilated by the notices recently issued to prisoners sentenced to penal servitude. The unexpected prospect of a protracted imprisonment may with great probability be regarded as having in the above instance led to the commission of an act of suicide. Suicides, suicidal attempts and feigned cases of suicidal attempt.

Two Chinamen attempted to hang themselves in the cells shortly after their admission, but were saved from harm by the timely interference of an officer. They were removed from the prison as unfit subjects for separate confinement.

Two prisoners attempted suicide by strangulation while under punishment in the dark cells. The prisoners stated that they were tried of life, and one was ascertained to have attempted suicide in other prisons twice before.

There were also three cases in which the attendant circumstances rendered it morally certain that the attempts were feigned, with a view to excite sympathy or create alarm.

Whenever the medical officer had reason to believe that "separation" was likely to act injuriously upon the mental or bodily health, the discipline was suspended, and the prisoner permitted to work in association with others. The total number requiring the medical officer's interposition in this respect was 23: 10 on account of ill health, 13 on mental grounds. The above measure in some cases no doubt averted positive injury, but was in all cases attended with benefit. (*Vide* tables, p. 36, for details of the above.) Suspensions of the discipline by the medical officer.

Three prisoners were removed from the prison on mental grounds shortly after admission: viz., the two Chinamen before noticed as having attempted suicide, and P. M., an excitable Irishman, who Removals on mental grounds.

Medical Officer's Report.

had formerly been a hard drinker, and had severely injured his skull. *Vide* p. 36.)

Diet.

No alteration has been made in the dietary since the date of the last report. When it was found difficult to obtain sound potatoes, rice and haricots were used alternately instead of them, as has been the case of late years.

Nearly 18 per cent. of the prisoners have required extra diet, and for the most part after the sixth month of imprisonment. This has generally consisted of an additional quantity of potatoes given with the dinner ration, and has sufficed to maintain health.

Ventilation, warming, and drainage.

The ventilation and warming of the prison cells continue to be satisfactorily performed.

The drainage is efficient.

Conclusion.

It will appear from the foregoing remarks that the prisoners have been entirely free from fevers and other infectious diseases; that the graver cases of disease have been but few in number; that the daily sick list has been small; and the rate of mortality low during the past year. In the cases of insanity and delusion, the disease was shown to have existed before admission, and to have been independent of any causes in operation in the prison. As regards the cases of "mental irritability," it may be stated that similar cases occur in all prisons as well as in ordinary society, where they are passed by without attracting the notice of any save a close observer. With respect to the suicide, the prisoner had declared to an associate, before he was admitted into Pentonville, that he would hang himself rather than serve the full period of his sentence of penal servitude; and as soon as he found by the rules promulgated among the prisoners that this would be required of him, he carried out his previously expressed determination. This case cannot, I think, be ascribed to the treatment or discipline of the prison.

The suicidal attempts of the Chinamen serve to show that such men are unfit subjects for separate confinement.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHAS. L. BRADLEY,

*Medical Officer.*

*The of the Director Convict Prisons.*

The MEDICAL STATISTICS for the Year 1855 will be found in the following Tables :— Medical Officer's Report.

No. 1.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Number of convicts in the prison 1st January 1855 - - | 538 | |
| Number of convicts admitted during the year 1855 - - | 453 | |
| | | 991 |
| Discharged on other than medical grounds - | 693 | |
| Deaths - - - - - - | 5 | |
| Suicides - - - - - - | 1 | |
| Pardons and licences on medical grounds - - | 0 | |
| Removed on medical grounds before the expiration of their term of separate confinement - - | 6 | 730 |
| Transferred to Dartmoor or the invalid hulk at the expiration of their term of separate confinement | 23 | |
| Removed as insane to Bethlem Hospital - - | 2 | |
| Number of convicts left in the prison, December 31, 1855 - | | 261 |

No. 2.

| | |
|---|---|
| Average daily number of prisoners - - - | 508·30 |
| „ per-centage of sick - - - | 2·77 |
| „ „ on extra diet - - | 17·71 |

DAILY PER-CENTAGE of SICK.

| MONTH. | 1843 to 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| January - - - - | 4·03 | 2·07 | 3·64 | 2·98 |
| February - - - - | 3·85 | 2·35 | 3·38 | 2·43 |
| March - - - - | 4·09 | 2·11 | 3·65 | 2·42 |
| April - - - - - | 3·68 | 1·32 | 3·86 | 3·17 |
| May - - - - - | 3·14 | 1·76 | 3·40 | 3·13 |
| June - - - - - | 3·45 | 2·19 | 3·16 | 2·92 |
| July - - - - - | 3·66 | 1·84 | 3·73 | 3·14 |
| August - - - - | 3·40 | 2·01 | 2·75 | 4·01 |
| September - - - - | 3·13 | 2·60 | 3·04 | 2·86 |
| October - - - - | 3·06 | 2·98 | 2·64 | 2·30 |
| November - - - - | 2·96 | 2·69 | 1·94 | 2·14 |
| December - - - - | 3·09 | 2·30 | 2·39 | 1·80 |
| Mean average for the year - | 3·46 | 2·18 | 3·13 | 2·77 |

No. 3.

Medical Officer's Report.

A List of all Cases under Medical Treatment during the Year 1855.

| Name of Disease. | In the Cells. | In Infirmary. | | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Slight. | Graver. | |
| **I. Zymotic diseases:** | | | | |
| 1. Erysipelas | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| 2. Syphilis | 7 | — | — | 7 |
| **II. Sporadic diseases:** | | | | |
| 1. Affections of the brain and nervous system— | | | | |
| Mania (chronic) | — | — | 2 | 2 |
| Delusion | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Mental irritability | 1 | 3 | — | 4 |
| *Epilepsy | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Cephalalgia and vertigo | 2 | 2 | — | 4 |
| Neuralgia (*of dental nerves*) | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| 2. Affections of the organs of respiration— | | | | |
| Catarrh | 465 | 5 | — | 470 |
| Pleurodynia | 9 | — | — | 9 |
| Bronchitis | 4 | — | 2 | 6 |
| Pleuropneumonia | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Pneumonia with tubercle | — | — | 2 | 2 |
| Phthisis | — | — | 2 | 2 |
| Hæmoptysis | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| 3. Affections of the organs of digestion— | | | | |
| Constipation | 794 | 5 | — | 799 |
| Diarrhœa | 90 | 2 | — | 92 |
| Dyspepsia | 168 | 1 | — | 169 |
| Hæmorrhoidal affections | 16 | — | — | 16 |
| Quinsy | 2 | — | — | 2 |
| Hydatid disease of the liver | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Thread-worms | 72 | — | — | 72 |
| Tape-worms | 7 | — | — | 7 |
| 4. Affections of the organs of circulation: | | | | |
| Palpitation of the heart | 4 | — | — | 4 |
| Syncope | 3 | — | — | 3 |
| 5. Affections of the genito-urinary organs— | | | | |
| Stricture | 5 | — | — | 5 |
| Urethritis | 2 | — | — | 2 |
| Phimosis, paraphimosis | 3 | — | — | 3 |
| Irritable testis | 2 | — | — | 2 |
| Buboes | 1 | 1 | — | 2 |
| 6. Affections of the organs of locomotion: | | | | |
| Chronic rheumatism | 37 | — | — | 37 |
| Subacute rheumatism | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Periostitis | 2 | — | — | 2 |
| Suppurating bursa | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| *Bad knee | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Carried forward | | | | |

* Remaining on the Sick List from 1854.

Cases of Sickness, &c.—*continued.*

| Name of Disease. | In the Cells. | In Infirmary. | | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Slight. | Graver. | |
| Brought forward - - | | | | |
| 7. Affections of the skin, &c.: | | | | |
| Carbuncle - - - - | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Boils - - - - - | 5 | — | — | 5 |
| Ringworm (favus) - - - | 2 | — | — | 2 |
| Ecthyma (admitted affected) - - | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Lepra and psoriasis - - - | 4 | — | — | 4 |
| Acne - - - - - | 2 | — | — | 2 |
| Sycosis - - - - | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| 8. Affections of the eye and ear: | | | | |
| Corneitis - - - - | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Lippitude, &c. - - - | 3 | — | — | 3 |
| Otalgia, Otorrhœa, &c. - - | 5 | — | — | 5 |
| 9. Other diseases of uncertain seat: | | | | |
| Anœmia - - - - | 3 | — | — | 3 |
| Struma - - - - | 13 | *1 | — | 14 |
| Abscess - - - - | 4 | 1 | — | 5 |
| Various trivial complaints, slight injuries, anomalous and feigned cases | 95 | *1 | — | 96 |
| Number of Cases treated in the cells - | 1,841 | | | |
| „ „ „ „ Infirmary - | | 28 | 12 | 40 |
| Total of all Cases - - - | - - - | 1,881 | - - - | |

* Remaining on the Sick List from 1854.

## No. 4.—Deaths. 1855.

| Initials of Name. | Reg. No. | Age. | Date of Admission. | Date of Fatal Disease. | Date of Death. | Cause of Death. | Length of Imprisonment in Pentonville before Death. | Total Length of Imprisonment in various Prisons before Death. | Health on Admission. | Whence received. | Previous Occupation. | Occupation in the Prison. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1855. | 1855. | 1855. | | | | | | | |
| J. O. D. - | 5,896 | 20 | Feb. 16 | April 11 - | April 24 | Pneumonia with miliary tubercle. | 5 weeks - | Nearly 7 months. | Apparently good. | Millbank | Screw-maker. | Weaver. |
| | | | 1854. | | | | | | | | | |
| J. R. - - | 5,617 | 50 | June 10 | June 1 - | Aug. 31 | Bronchitis - | 1 year 2 mths. 3 weeks. | 1 year 5 months 6 days. | Apparently good. | Millbank | Labourer | Matmaker. |
| J. K. - - | 5,517 | 17 | Feb. 18 | March 23 - | Oct. 7 | Phthisis - - | 1 year 6 mths. 19 days. | Nearly 2 yrs. besides frequent previous convictions. | Of strumous tendency, with deformed chest; health apparently good. | Millbank | Labourer | Tailor. |
| | | | 1855. | | | | | | | | | |
| R. J. - - | 6,072 | 48 | May 12 | June 20 - | „ 13 | Hydatid disease of the liver. | 5 months - | 7 months - | Apparently good. | Millbank | Labourer | Tailor. |
| F. M. D. - | 5,924 | 22 | Feb. 19 | Sept. 22 - | „ 25 | Pneumonic phthisis. | 7 months - | 9 months 3 weeks. | Tall and thin; health apparently good. | Millbank | Private soldier. | Tailor. |
| | | | 1854. | | | | | | | | | |
| J. G. - - | 5,791 | 18 | Oct. 2 | — | Nov. 28 | Suicide by hanging. | Nearly 14 months. | 16 months - | Good - - | Newcastle-upon-Tyne. | Striker. | Tailor. |

No. 5.—Pardons and Licences on Medical Grounds, 1855.

Medical Officer's Report.

None.

No. 6.—Removals on Medical Grounds before the Expiration of their Term of Separate Confinement.

1. On account of Ill Health.

| Initials of Name. | Reg. No. | Date of Admission. | Date of Removal. | Whither removed. | Health on Admission. | Cause of Removal. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1854. | 1855. | | | |
| W. B. | 5,821 | Oct. 13 - | Feb. 17 - | Invalid Hulk. | Scrofulous - | Scrofula. |
| W. H. | 5,694 | Sept. 6 - | „ „ | „ „ | Epileptic - | Epilepsy. |
| W. R. | 5,971 | Feb. 19 - | May - | Dartmoor. | Phthisical - | Phthisical. |

2. On Mental Grounds.

| Initials of Name. | Reg. No. | Date of Admission. | Date of Removal. | Whither removed. | Condition on Admission. | Cause of Removal. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1855. | 1855. | | | |
| P. M. | 6,207 | Oct. 3 - | Dec. 22 | Public Works. | An excitable Irishman, who had formerly sustained an injury to his skull. | Likely to be injuriously affected by separate confinement. |
| A. | 6,222 | Nov. 8 - | Dec. 10 | Embarked for China. | Two Chinamen, ignorant of the English language. | Attempted suicide; unfit subjects for separate confinement. |
| A. | 6,223 | Nov. 8 - | Dec. 10 | | | |

Medical Officer's Report.

No. 7.—REMOVED to DARTMOOR or the INVALID HULK at the Expiration of their Term of Separate Confinement

| Initials of Name. | Reg. No. | Whither removed. | Morbid Conditions when Admitted. | Morbid Conditions when discharged. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| J. M. - | 5,466 | Dartmoor | Strumous - - - | Bad knee, lame. |
| B. S. - | 5,267 | „ | Chronic ulcer - - | Chronic ulcer. |
| J. R. - | 5,418 | „ | Tumour in the side - | Tumour in the side. |
| G. R. - | 5,306 | „ | Lame - - - - | Lame. |
| J. H. - | 5,287 | „ | Lame - - - - | Lame, unfit for labour on P.W. |
| E. M. - | 5,212 | „ | Delicate - - - | Delicate, unfit for penal labour. |
| E. H. - | 5,275 | Inv. Hulk | Crippled in hand - - | Crippled. |
| E. S. - | 5,341 | Inv. Hulk | Disease of heart and lungs | Pulmonary disease. |
| J. G. - | 5,436 | Dartmoor | Strumous - - - | Unfit for hard labour. |
| S. P. - | 5,543 | Inv. Hulk | Of phthisical tendency - | Delicate, phthisical. |
| W. R. - | 5,575 | Dartmoor | Delicate - - - | Chronic bronchitis. |
| J. R. - | 5,529 | Inv. Hulk | Stricture - - - | Stricture. |
| P. O. T. | 5,706 | Dartmoor | A cripple - - - | A cripple. |
| W. J. P. | 5,811 | „ | Lame - - - - | Lame. |
| W. G. H. | 5,103 | „ | In good health - - | Delicate. |
| J. O. - | 5,764 | „ | Hernia - - - | Hernia. |
| C. C. - | 5,669 | „ | Stricture - - - | Old strictures. |
| J. L. - | 5,759 | „ | Stricture - - - | |
| R. J. - | 5,780 | „ | Strumous and delicate - | Strumous and delicate. |
| G. B. - | 5,704 | „ | Scrofulous - - - | Scrofulous, unfit for hard labour. |
| T. W. | 5,881 | „ | Delicate - - - | Delicate, do. do. |
| W. B. | 5,808 | „ | Delicate - - - | Delicate, do. do. |
| W. W. | 5,708 | „ | Of phthisical tendency | Phthisical. |

## No. 8.—Removals on account of Insanity, 1855.

| Initials of Name. | Reg. No. | Age. | Date of Admission. | Mental condition on Admission. | Whether any known tendency to Insanity before Admission. | Form of Mental Affection. | Date of Appearance of Mental Symptoms. | Date of Removal. | Whither removed. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| H. G. - - - | 5,960 | 38 | 19 Feb. 1855 - | Odd in manner but apparently sane. | There is reason to believe that the prisoner was labouring under insanity at the time he committed the offence for which he was transported. | Chronic mania. | 12 Mar. 1855 | 23 May 1855 | Bethlem Hospital. |
| G. W. - - | 6,044 | 26 | 17 Mar. 1855 - | Apparently sane; was received for a second probation as a prisoner who was guilty of continued misconduct at the public works. | The history of this case leads to the conclusion that the insubordinate conduct of the prisoner previous to his admission, was dependant on mental disease, that mental disease existed on admission, but required long continued observation and time for its detection. | Chronic mania. | On admission | 11 Dec. 1855 | Bethlem Hospital. |

Medical Officer's Report.

No. 9.—Suspensions of the Discipline by the Medical Officer's direction.

1. On account of Health.

| Reg. No. | Cause of Suspension. | Reg. No. | Cause of Suspension. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5,786 - | Becoming pallid. | 5,992 - | As complaining of pain in the head. |
| 6,032 - | Of phthisical aspect. | 5,826 - | |
| 6,072 - | Convalescing from jaundice. | 5,981 - | The subject of palpitation. |
| 5,924 - | Phthisical. | 6,070 - | General health declining. |
| 5,950 - | Pallid and nervous. | 5,698 - | Convalescing from pneumonia. |

2. On Mental Grounds.

| Reg. No. | Cause of Suspension. | Reg. No. | Cause of Suspension. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5,636 - | Irritability of mind; morbidly suspicious. | 5,790 - | Depressed from discovering the suicide of a former associate. |
| 5,754 - | Mental irritability; upwards of a year in the prison. | 6,222 - | Two Chinamen, who attempted suicide in separate confinement. |
| 5,726 - | Of sullen disposition, and becoming irritable. | 6,223 - | |
| 5,365 - | Reported as having attempted suicide; upwards of a year in separate confinement. | 6,207 - | An excitable Irishman who had suffered an injury to his skull. |
| | | 6,039 - | Fancied he was suspected of vicious practices. |
| 5,912 - | As having ecstatic notions on religious subjects. | 6,092 - | Fancied something was mixed with his food to injure his health. |
| 5,765 - | Behaved himself oddly; 14 months in separate confinement. | 5,695 - | A case of mental delusion. |

# REPORT

OF THE

# DIRECTORS OF CONVICT PRISONS

ON THE

## DISCIPLINE AND MANAGEMENT

OF

# PARKHURST PRISON.

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# PARKHURST PRISON.

## REPORT,

For the Year 1855, of the Directors of the Convict Prisons made, as regards Parkhurst Prison, in pursuance of the Acts 1 & 2 Vict. cap. 82, and 13 & 14 Vict. cap. 39.;—specifying the State of the Buildings; the Behaviour and Conduct of the Officers of the Prison, and of the Convicts; the Amount of the Earnings of the Convicts, and the Expense of the Prison; and such other Matters relating to the Discipline and Management thereof, as they shall deem expedient, or the Secretary of State shall direct.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.*

To the Right Honourable Sir GEORGE GREY, G.C.B.,

*Secretary of State for the Home Department.*

Sir, 45 *Parliament Street*, 1856.

We have the honour to submit the following Report for the year 1855, in compliance with the above-recited Acts of Parliament.

### *State of the Buildings.*

State of the buildings.

The buildings are in good repair with the exception of the old cells of the general ward, which are still however serviceable though not in a satisfactory state, having been constructed in a building erected for other purposes many years before Parkhurst was used as a prison.

The two new wings of the junior wards containing together 164 cells, separated from each other by partitions of corrugated iron, have been satisfactorily completed.

The workshops erected on the site of those destroyed by fire on the 31st of January 1855, the details of which are given in the Governor's report, page 45, have also been completed upon improved plans and in a satisfactory manner.

A house for the chaplain is in course of building, his former residence having been considered by the medical officer to be unhealthy from its close proximity to the farm-yard.

The works referred to were performed by contractors, with some assistance from the prisoners in the preparation of materials.

A large barrel-drain has been laid down, a cook's store has been built, extensive alterations in the junior wards kitchen have been made, and the usual repairs have been executed by the prisoners.

### *Abuses.*

Abuses. We are not aware of any abuses existing in the management of the prison; though it has been our painful duty to recommend the discharge of a superior clerk, who had been behindhand in his payments on private but not public accounts.

### *Conduct of the Officers.*

Conduct of the officers. We have satisfaction in stating the conduct of the superior officers to have been fully equal to that which we reported it to be in previous years.

The subordinate officers have likewise on the whole done their duty in a satisfactory manner.

### *Conduct of Prisoners.*

Conduct of prisoners. We have nothing whatever to complain of under this head, either as regards the boys' industry on the land, in the wards, or in school. Their conduct has been fully as good as could have been expected. A large majority have altogether avoided the commission of offences, have been quiet in their demeanour, have obeyed the rules and earned the good-will not only of the superior officers, but of the subordinate officers and schoolmasters under whom they worked, and by whom they have been taught. Others again, after having been for months unquiet, fretful, and insubordinate have grown wiser and better when growing older, and quitting their early vices and follies, steadily improved. Some however, and happily the number is comparatively very small, have neither grown wiser nor better with increasing years, have not improved in the least degree, but continue to be what they were at first, incorrigible liars, thieves, when an opportunity offers, irritable, obstinate, idle, and vicious. They are alike indifferent to punishment and kindness. Weakness or dullness of intellect extensively prevails among them, and they seem to be incapable of benefitting by the establishment. When every means to improve them have been exhausted and they become old enough to lead others into

error and crime nothing remains but to remove them altogether to prisons for adult convicts, either in separate confinement, or connected with public works.

### *Escapes.*

Escapes.

There have been some attempts to run away, none of which succeeded. On one occasion three boys reached a distance of half a mile only, when they were recaptured. On another occasion five boys hid themselves in the adjoining forest for some hours, but were taken on their emerging from concealment and brought back to the prison. The governor reports a third attempt, (see Appendix, page 47) which, however, can scarcely be called an attempt, but rather a mischievous "hide and seek" endeavour to perplex the officers, as the prisoners did not leave the premises.

### *Number and Disposal of Prisoners.*

Number and disposal of prisoners.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| The daily average number for the year was - | 482 | |
| At the commencement of the year 1855 the number of prisoners remaining at Parkhurst was - - - | | 536 |
| Received during the year: | | |
| From Millbank Prison - - - | 94 | |
| Re-committed, their Licences having been revoked - - - - | 6 | 100 |
| | | 636 |
| Discharged at the expiration of their respective sentences - - - - | 10 | |
| Liberated on Licence - - - | 141 | |
| Transferred to Portland Prison - - | 10 | |
| „ Pentonville - - - | 11 | |
| „ Dartmoor - - - | 1 | |
| „ Portsmouth - - - | 18 | |
| Philanthropic - - - - | 12 | |
| Died - - - - - - | 2 | |
| | | 205 |
| Remaining at Parkhurst 31st December 1855 - | | 431 |
| | | 636 |

### *Expenses of the Prison.*

Expenses of the prison.

A detailed statement of the prison expenditure for the year ending March 31st, 1856, is given in the Appendix, page 48. The total cost of the prison, exclusive of buildings, amounted to 17,005*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*, which was reduced by sundry receipts and value of the prisoner's labour to 14,841*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*

## *Employment of Prisoners.*

Employment of the prisoners.

No change has taken place in the prisoners' employments since our last report. Those engaged in tailoring have made and kept in repair the prison clothing, have made up the liberty clothing for prisoners about to be discharged, and a portion of the officers' uniforms, together with a good deal of soldiers' clothing and knapsacks, the materials for which were supplied by a contractor with the Government for those articles. The shoemakers have made and repaired all the boots and shoes and leather caps used by prisoners. Those more advanced have worked for the officers and their families under the regulations, and have thus acquired some experience in that portion of the business which will be most useful to them on liberation. Washing, cooking, baking, and making gas have been carried on by the prisoners indoors; and out of doors the various farming operations have gone forward, including the raising of flax and scutching it afterwards. Bricks and draining tiles have been made. Carpenters, smiths, sawyers, bricklayers, and masons, (prisoners) have been employed as required for the various repairs and alterations. We have, on the whole, reason to be satisfied with the quantity and quality of the work done, with the progress of the most of the boys in their several employments, as well as with the attention shown by the instructing officers.

Mr. Strickland, steward of the prison, and charged with a general superintendence of the prisoners' labour, under the Governor, has entered into full details in his report, which appears in the Appendix.

## *Mental and Moral Training of the Prisoners.*

Mental and moral training of the prisoners.

The reports made by the Chaplains are in the Appendix; they contain the usual statistical information. No alteration has been made in the school arrangements during the past year, and we have nothing remarkable to notice under this head.

## *Health of the Prisoners.*

Health.

The Medical Officer's report appears as usual in the Appendix. He observes, that the health of the prisoners has been favourable, and as the circumstances in which they were placed during the past year are the same as those of former years, the character of the diseases was likewise the same.

Two deaths occurred and are described in detail in the appended report, pages 60, 61. The first was from natural disease; the second was apparently caused by the deceased himself who

took pills containing verdigris made by himself, not however with the intention of committing suicide, but for the purpose of tricking the surgeon into admitting him to the infirmary in order to avoid out-door work during the winter months. The coroner's inquest was to the effect that, he died from poison taken with the intent to produce sickness and not to destroy life.

We would here remark, that most boys reared in towns, and such form the majority of the Parkhurst prisoners, are very averse to exposure to the weather. Many of them suffer from chilblains in the winter. They cannot bear rain and bleak winds as boys do whose lives have been passed for the most part in the open air of the country. Steady out-door work is the exact reverse of what they have always been accustomed to; and they must become used to the change and interested in the occupations of the farm before they are reconciled to the occupation of digging in deep clay, to be occasionally wetted by a sharp passing shower, or to any other of the many (to them) new and disagreeable contingencies attendant upon field labour.

The Medical Officer, Mr. Dabbs, reports his opinion that all measures tending to the preservation of health, attention to the drainage of the grounds and residences, the regulation of the temperature of the dormitories, and the cleanliness and ventilation of the buildings, receive all the attention which their importance merits.

We have now, as on many former occasions we have had, to notice the care, kindness, and skill of this gentleman in the discharge of his duties.

## *Prisoners sentenced to Transportation discharged with Licences.*

Discharged with licences.

In last year's report we stated the conditions upon which these prisoners receive licences. We showed the system of classification, and we explained how, step by step, each rose from the probation class to the first class, a certain minimum time being fixed for every stage. We further stated that "when "it is decided that a prisoner shall be recommended for his dis- "charge, inquiries are made as to the likelihood of his obtaining "employment either among his own friends and relatives, or "among such persons as the superior officers of the prison "may have induced to befriend him. If the result appear "satisfactory, his name is confidently submitted to the Secre- "tary of State, but when doubtful or unsatisfactory, the whole "of the circumstances are brought before the Secretay of

" State for his decision. In the meantime they are not removed " from the other prisoners, but they cease to be so vigorously " watched as heretofore; they are given the ordinary garments " of a working man, and though they attend all prison duties " they make one step towards the freedom which they are " again to experience."

Under the same conditions, there were :—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Discharged on licence previous to 1st January 1855 - - - | | 157 |
| 1st January to 31st March 1855 - | 20 | |
| 1st April to 30th June - - | 28 | |
| 1st July to 30th September - | 46 | |
| 1st September to 31st December - | 48 | 142 |
| Total number discharged with licences - | | 299 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Licences revoked | |
| Previous to 1st January 1855 - | 2 |
| During the year 1855 - - | 6 |
| Total number of prisoners whose licences have been revoked - | 8 |

We have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servants,

J. Jebb, Colonel, R.E.,
*Chairman.*

D. O'Brien,
*Director of Convict Prisons.*

# APPENDIX.

## I.

## GOVERNOR'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN, *Parkhurst Prison, January* 9, 1856.

Governor's Report.

IN making my annual report for 1855, I beg to state that the number of prisoners remaining at Parkhurst on the 31st December 1854, was 536. During the year just expired, 94 new prisoners were received from Millbank, and 6, who had been formerly liberated on licence, were admitted on re-committal, their licences having been revoked.

205 prisoners were disposed of in the following manner in the course of 1855:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Liberated on licence - - - - - | 141 |
| „ on expiration of sentences - - - | 10 |
| Transferred to Portsmouth Prison - - - | 18 |
| „ Portland - - - - - | 10 |
| „ Pentonville - - - - - | 11 |
| „ Dartmoor - - - - - | 1 |
| „ Philanthropic Farm School at Red Hill - | 12 |
| Died - - - - - - - - | 2 |
| | 205 |

so that the total number at the termination of the year was reduced to 431.

No departure has been made during the past year from the system previously in operation. The number of prisoners in the probationary ward was considerably below the average of former years; one wing only of the junior wards prison was occupied, and consequently a large majority of the prisoners were in the general wards.

As the trades' classes are limited by the amount of work required for clothing prisoners, and for furniture and repairs of the buildings, most of the prisoners have been employed at field labour, and the farm has been brought into a creditable and satisfactory state of cultivation.

*Conduct of Subordinate Officers.*—There have been very few changes during the year, and the behaviour of the subordinate officers has been almost uniformly satisfactory.

*Buildings.*—On the night of the 31st January 1855, a fire broke out in the ceiling of the tailors' shop, in consequence of a defect in the hot air flue from the tailors' stove. All the water-pipes and

Governor's Report.

tanks being hard frozen, and a stiff breeze blowing at the time, the flames could not be checked until the whole of the roof, floors, and internal fittings and furniture of the tailors', shoemakers', and carpenters' shops, the laundry, washhouse, and workrooms were destroyed; but a providential and sudden change in the direction of the wind preserved the prisoners' cells and the steward's storerooms at the moment when those buildings had become much heated, and were in considerable peril.

The prompt and active aid of a body of soldiers, whom Colonel Rumley and Lieutenant-Colonel White brought in from the neighbouring barracks, enabled us to save most of the materials and tools which were in the shops when the fire broke out.

The workshops have been reconstructed and much improved, and are now in use. The other buildings are generally in good repair; the alteration of the west wing of the junior wards prison has been completed, and a new residence for the chaplain has been commenced on the north side of the approach to the prison entrance. Some additions have been made to the house of the chaplain of the junior wards. A large barrel drain has been carefully laid from the north of the farmyard and pigsties to the liquid manure tank in the field No. 9, so that all sewage liquid from the drains or cesspools between those two points is carried away underground, and the annoyances formerly complained of from these sources are completely removed.

*Treatment and Condition of Prisoners.*—The hours of labour and of instruction, the clothing, bedding, and other accommodations of the prisoners have been the same as in preceding years. The dietary has been very good, from the abundant supply of excellent vegetables grown on the prison farm.

The only alteration in diet has been the diminution of the quantity of bread allowed to prisoners under punishment, which has been reduced from 22 oz. in the penal class, and 20 oz. in the general wards, to one uniform allowance of 16 oz. daily to every prisoner who may be under punishment for misconduct.

This reduction of the allowance of bread had a good effect. Misconduct decreased as soon as this regulation became known, and the termination of the year found all the punishment cells vacant.

*Liberation of Prisoners on Licence.*—141 have been discharged under orders of licence during the past year. Most of these lads have returned to their friends, and in many cases very satisfactory tidings have been received of their being industriously engaged in honest and respectable employments. Six prisoners out of the 157 who had been licensed in 1854, were re-committed to Parkhurst last year in consequence of their licences being revoked. These prisoners being too old for the discipline of Parkhurst, were transferred to public works as adults, after they had been here a few weeks.

*Attempts to escape.*—In January 1855, three prisoners who were at work in a field on the east side of the Newport road absconded from their party, and ran down to the river side, about half a mile distant. They were immediately pursued and recaptured. During the

summer, five other prisoners, when working near to the forest, started off, and hid themselves in the brushwood until night, when they came out on the adjacent lanes, and were soon apprehended and brought back to the prison. Two boys also slipped away from their parties at labour, and secreted themselves on the prison premises, where they were soon afterwards discovered.

*Health of Prisoners.*—The general health of the establishment has been very good. Comparatively few prisoners were received into the infirmary, and the cases of real illness were fewer still. The disposition to malinger and to feign illness, with the object of passing some time in idleness, with all the comforts of the infirmary, is very great among boys of the criminal class. Two prisoners died during the year: one of them was received in bad health from Millbank, and was admitted into the infirmary almost immediately after his arrival here. The death of the other was doubtless caused by his own misconduct. The Medical Officer will report the particulars of these cases.

*General Rules.*—I am not aware of any abuse or any departure from compliance with the rules of the prison which has not been fully made known to the Visiting Director.

I have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
GEORGE HALL, *Governor.*

*To the Directors of Convict Prisons.*

Governor's Report.

STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE of PARKHURST PRISON for the Year ended 31st March 1856.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Salaries of principal officers and clerks | 2,561 | 9 | 0 |
| Wages of subordinate officers and servants | 2,288 | 17 | 8 |
| Salaries and wages of manufacturing or labour department | 653 | 4 | 3 |
| Rations for officers and allowances in lieu thereof | 548 | 18 | 3 |
| Uniforms for officers and servants | 366 | 17 | 3 |
| Victualling prisoners | 4,343 | 12 | 3 |
| Clothing, &c. for prisoners | 1,759 | 6 | 8 |
| Bedding for prisoners | 333 | 13 | 2 |
| Medicines, surgical instruments, &c. | 72 | 16 | 9 |
| Medical comforts (extras for the sick) | 84 | 4 | 3 |
| Clothing and travelling expenses of prisoners on their liberation | 690 | 9 | 7 |
| Gratuities to convicts | 345 | 4 | 1 |
| Furniture and fittings | 62 | 1 | 7 |
| Kitchen utensils, crockery, cutlery, &c. | 75 | 8 | 3 |
| Fuel and light for general purposes | 766 | 15 | 4 |
| Buildings, hulks, and ordinary repairs | 1,455 | 16 | 3 |
| Soap, scouring and cleaning articles | 116 | 1 | 10 |
| Brushes, brooms, and mops | 91 | 16 | 8 |
| Funeral expenses, inquests, &c. | 1 | 9 | 6 |
| Various small disbursements | 246 | 14 | 3 |
| Rent, rates, and taxes | 140 | 9 | 7 |
| Total | 17,005 | 16 | 5 |
| Deduct—Amount of sundry receipts and value of productive labour | 2,163 | 7 | 6 |
| Net expenditure | £ 14,841 | 18 | 11 |

# II.

## CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

*Parkhurst Prison, Senior Wards,*
*January* 7, 1856.

GENTLEMEN,

THE time having arrived when it becomes my duty to lay before you my report of the year ending December 31, 1855, I beg to submit the following in that character. Chaplain's Report.

Happily there is no occasion to trouble you with any lengthened observations, for the past year was so like the preceding one, that there is nothing left to report upon but matters relating to statistics and the usual routine.

*Probationary Ward School.*—At the beginning of the year 1855 there were 81 boys in this school, and during the year 96 were received from Millbank, so that 177 were instructed in this school during the year. 160 of these were at different times transferred either to the general or junior wards, or to other prisons; thus leaving 17 only in the school at the end of the year.

*General Ward Schools.*—The total number of boys under instruction in these schools during the year was 469. Of these, 37 were removed to other prisons, and 136 left on ticket of leave. We have heard from several of those thus liberated, and I am thankful to say the greater number of them are going on satisfactorily.

*General Conduct of the Boys.*—I am happy to be able to report very favourably under this head, bearing in mind that the total number of boys under instruction in the probationary and general schools was 548. I beg to observe that only 54 of these were reported for petty misconduct in school, and that only 58 were reported to the Governor for offences more serious than those we denominate petty; that is, in other words, 90 per cent. were not complained of under the first head, and all but 90 per cent. were not complained of under the second head.

I beg to draw attention to the Tables in the Appendix, which will afford ample information concerning the intellectual attainments and progress of the boys in the general schools; to my mind they show a very satisfactory state of things.

The library continues to be a source of entertainment and instruction to the boys, and though we have had 400 books in constant circulation during the year, and each book has been exchanged nearly fifty times, yet we have lost but 16 books in this period, a fact which shows the general care with which they are treated.

The authorized routine of the school has been carried on with regularity and constancy during the whole of the year.

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
HENRY SMITH, *Chaplain.*

*To the Directors of Convict Prisons.*

TABLE I.—Showing the AMOUNT of PROGRESS in SCHOLASTIC ATTAINMENTS of 182 PRISONERS removed or liberated by LICENCE during the Year, and of 313 being in the SENIOR and PROBATIONARY WARDS SCHOOLS, on the 31st December 1855.

| | No. of Boys. | Attainments. | Reading. | | | | | Spelling. | | | | | Writing. | | | | | Arithmetic. | | | | | Scriptural and General Information. | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Well. | Tolerably. | Imperfectly. | Scarcely at all. | Not at all. | Well. | Tolerably. | Imperfectly. | Scarcely at all. | Not at all | Well. | Tolerably. | Imperfectly. | Scarcely at all. | Not at all. | Higher Rules. | Compound Rules. | Simple Rules. | Simple Addition. | None. | Much. | Considerable. | Some. | Little. | Scarcely any or none. |
| Removed to other Prisons | 46 | At Reception | 1 | 12 | 20 | 11 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 22 | 17 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 20 | 18 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 11 | 20 | 9 | – | 2 | 3 | 24 | 17 |
| | | At Removal | 29 | 10 | 7 | – | – | 18 | 15 | 12 | 1 | – | 26 | 12 | 8 | – | – | 27 | 10 | 6 | 3 | – | 2 | 15 | 16 | 13 | – |
| Pardoned or liberated by licence | 136 | At Reception | 6 | 16 | 60 | 37 | 17 | 3 | 10 | 53 | 42 | 28 | 3 | 5 | 59 | 40 | 29 | 4 | 5 | 14 | 59 | 54 | – | – | 9 | 53 | 74 |
| | | At Removal | 93 | 31 | 12 | – | – | 67 | 50 | 19 | – | – | 90 | 38 | 8 | – | – | 110 | 17 | 6 | 3 | – | 11 | 43 | 70 | 12 | – |
| Senior School | 296 | At Reception | 1 | 38 | 146 | 67 | 44 | – | 10 | 130 | 83 | 73 | – | 6 | 142 | 85 | 63 | 4 | 4 | 51 | 91 | 146 | – | – | 7 | 103 | 186 |
| | | On Dec. 31, 1855 | 149 | 81 | 62 | 4 | – | 82 | 99 | 104 | 11 | – | 143 | 97 | 55 | 1 | – | 167 | 85 | 35 | 8 | 1 | – | 54 | 174 | 62 | 6 |
| Probationary School | 17 | At Reception | – | – | 7 | 8 | 2 | – | – | 3 | 10 | 4 | – | – | 7 | 7 | 3 | – | – | 5 | 5 | 7 | – | – | 2 | 2 | 13 |
| | | On Dec. 31, 1855 | – | 4 | 9 | 3 | 1 | – | 2 | 7 | 6 | 2 | – | 6 | 8 | 2 | 1 | – | 6 | 8 | 2 | 1 | – | – | 3 | 5 | 9 |

TABLE II.—Showing the PER-CENTAGE of SCHOLASTIC IMPROVEMENT of 495 PRISONERS who were under INSTRUCTION in the SENIOR and PROBATIONARY WARDS SCHOOLS, in the Year 1855.

| | | | Reading. | | | | | Spelling. | | | | | Writing. | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Well. | Tolerably. | Imperfectly. | Scarcely at all. | Not at all. | Well. | Tolerably. | Imperfectly. | Scarcely at all. | Not at all. | Well. | Tolerably. | Imperfectly. | Scarcely at all. | Not at all. |
| 46 removed to other prisons | Average time in Parkhurst, 31 months | When received | 2 | 26 | 43½ | 24 | 4½ | 2 | 4⅓ | 48 | 37 | 8⅔ | 2 | 9 | 43½ | 39 | 6½ |
| | | At removal | 63 | 21¾ | 15¼ | — | — | 39 | 32¾ | 26 | 2¼ | — | 56½ | 26 | 17½ | — | — |
| 136 pardoned or liberated by licence | Average time in Parkhurst, 48 months | When received | 4½ | 11¾ | 44 | 27½ | 12½ | 2⅔ | 7¼ | 39 | 31 | 20½ | 2¼ | 3⅔ | 43⅓ | 29½ | 21¼ |
| | | At removal | 68½ | 22¾ | 8¾ | — | — | 49¼ | 36¾ | 14 | — | — | 66 | 28 | 6 | — | — |
| 296 remaining in Senior School | Average time in Parkhurst, 30 months | When received | ¾ | 13 | 49¾ | 22⅔ | 14⅔ | — | 3½ | 44 | 28 | 24⅔ | — | 2 | 48 | 28⅔ | 21¼ |
| | | On 31st December 1855 | 50⅓ | 27⅓ | 21 | 1⅓ | — | 27⅔ | 33½ | 35 | 3¾ | — | 48¼ | 32¾ | 18¾ | 3¼ | — |
| 17 remaining in Probationary Ward | Average time in Parkhurst, 3 months | When received | — | — | 41¼ | 47 | 11¾ | — | — | 17½ | 59 | 23½ | — | — | 41¼ | 41 | 17¾ |
| | | On 31st December 1855 | — | 23½ | 53 | 17½ | 6 | — | 12 | 41 | 35¼ | 11¾ | — | 35¼ | 47 | 11¾ | 6 |

| | | | Arithmetic. | | | | | Scriptural and General Information. | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Higher Rules. | Compound Rules. | Simple Rules. | Simple Addition. | None. | Much. | Considerable. | Some. | Little. | Scarcely any or none. |
| 46 removed to other prisons | Average time in Parkhurst, 31 months | When received | 4½ | 8⅔ | 24 | 43½ | 19½ | — | 4½ | 6⅔ | 52 | 37 |
| | | At removal | 58⅔ | 21⅔ | 13 | 6½ | — | 4⅓ | 32⅔ | 35 | 28 | — |
| 136 pardoned or liberated by licence | Average time in Parkhurst, 48 months | When received | 3 | 3⅔ | 10¼ | 43¼ | 39¾ | — | — | 6⅔ | 39 | 54⅓ |
| | | At removal | 81 | 12¼ | 4¼ | 2¼ | — | 8 | 31½ | 51½ | 9 | — |
| 296 remaining in Senior School | Average time in Parkhurst, 30 months | When received | 1⅓ | 1⅓ | 17¼ | 30¾ | 49⅓ | — | — | 2⅓ | 35 | 62⅔ |
| | | On 31st December 1855 | 56½ | 28⅔ | 11⅔ | 2⅔ | ⅓ | — | 18¼ | 58⅔ | 21 | 2 |
| 17 remaining in Probationary Ward | Average time in Parkhurst, 3 months | When received | — | — | 29½ | 29½ | 41 | — | — | 11⅔ | 11¾ | 76½ |
| | | On 31st December 1855 | — | 35¼ | 47 | 11¾ | 6 | — | — | 17½ | 29½ | 53 |

TABLE III.—Showing the SUMMARY of the PER-CENTAGE of SCHOLASTIC IMPROVEMENT in 495 PRISONERS who were under INSTRUCTION in the SENIOR and PROBATIONARY WARDS SCHOOLS in the Year 1855.

| | | Able to Read Well, or Tolerably. | Able to Spell Well, or Tolerably. | Able to Write Well, or Tolerably. | In Arithmetic, could perform correctly Operations in Higher, Compound, or Simple Rules. | Possessed Much, Considerable, or Some, Scriptural and General Information. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Per Cent. | Per Cent. | Per Cent. | Per Cent. | Per Cent. |
| 46 removed to other Prisons - | Average time in Parkhurst, 31 months - When received | 28¼ | 6½ | 11 | 37 | 11 |
| | Average time in Parkhurst, 31 months - At Removal | 82¾ | 71¾ | 83 | 93½ | 71¾ |
| | Average time in Parkhurst, 31 months - Improvement | 54½ | 65 | 72 | 56½ | 60¾ |
| 136 pardoned or liberated by licence - - - - | Average time in Parkhurst, 48 months - When received | 16 | 9½ | 6 | 17 | 6½ |
| | Average time in Parkhurst, 48 months - At Removal | 91 | 86 | 94 | 97¾ | 91 |
| | Average time in Parkhurst, 48 months - Improvement | 75 | 76½ | 88 | 80¾ | 84½ |
| 296 remaining in Senior School - | Average time in Parkhurst, 30 months - When received | 13⅓ | 3⅓ | 2 | 20 | 2⅓ |
| | Average time in Parkhurst, 30 months - 31st Dec. 1855 | 77¾ | 61 | 81 | 85¼ | 77 |
| | Average time in Parkhurst, 30 months - Improvement | 64½ | 57⅔ | 79 | 65¼ | 74⅔ |
| 17 remaining in Probationary Ward - - - - - | Average time in Parkhurst, 3 months - When received | — | — | — | 29½ | 12 |
| | Average time in Parkhurst, 3 months - 31st Dec 1855 | 23½ | 12 | 35¼ | 82¼ | 29½ |
| | Average time in Parkhurst, 3 months - Improvement | 23½ | 12 | 35¼ | 52¾ | 17½ |

# III.

## JUNIOR WARDS CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

*Junior Wards, Parkhurst Prison,*
*January* 9, 1856.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE the honour to submit my report of the junior wards for the past year. Report of the Chaplain, &c. of the Junior Wards.

The total number of prisoners under my spiritual care and superintendence during the year has been 168. At the end of each quarter there was as follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| 31st of March - - - - - | 125 |
| 30th of June - - - - - | 125 |
| 30th of September - - - - | 131 |
| 31st of December - - - - | 114 |

Fifty-three were transferred during the year from the probationary to these wards.

The number removed was as follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Liberated on licence - - - - | 14 |
| Died - - - - - - | 1 |
| Sentence completed - - - - | 1 |
| Transferred to the senior wards - - | 31 |
| Removed to Red Hill - - | 7 |

The conduct of the prisoners during each quarter will appear in the following table:— Conduct of the prisoners in the ward

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| First Quarter - | Very good - - | 23 |
| „ | Good - - | 76 |
| „ | Indifferent - - | 20 |
| „ | Bad - - | 6 |
| Second Quarter - | Very good - - | 17 |
| „ | Good - - | 70 |
| „ | Indifferent - - | 20 |
| „ | Bad - - | 13 |
| „ | Very bad - - | 5 |
| Third Quarter - | Very good - - | 15 |
| „ | Good - - | 73 |
| „ | Indifferent - - | 14 |
| „ | Bad - - | 27 |
| „ | Very bad - - | 2 |
| Fourth Quarter - | Very good - - | 18 |
| „ | Good - - | 61 |
| „ | Indifferent - - | 26 |
| „ | Bad - - | 7 |
| „ | Very bad - - | 2 |

Report of the Chaplain, &c. of the Junior Wards.

Their general conduct has been remarkably orderly during the year. The punishments have been nearly one-half less than those of the preceding year. We have had in these wards, as it invariably happens, some very troublesome boys; but I am enabled to say that at the close of the year the majority of them had become much improved. There still remained some very depraved and hardened characters, who, I have no doubt, under the salutary influence of this institution, will ere long see the folly of their ways, and fall into the ranks of the better disposed.

It must ever be borne in mind that the class of prisoners we have to deal with is generally of the very worst description, and the most difficult to manage; they are little more than children grown old in crime, saturated with every species of vice, adepts in trickery and cunning; yet we never despair, no means within our reach are left untried to persuade them to consider their real interests, and to forsake their evil ways; but youth and inexperience stand very much in the way of our efforts; still I feel persuaded that the seed is not lost, and that time and eternity will testify that our labour has not been in vain. Many a faithful labourer in the Lord's vineyard sows, but is not permitted to reap till the great Harvest Day; in this hope we must take encouragement.

While I am enabled to report favourably of the conduct of the prisoners in the wards, I can do so also in reference to the schools; nothing, indeed, could exceed their orderly behaviour and attention in this department; the few who were bent on mishief have not made satisfactory progress, idleness and misconduct generally keep pace together. I have been led to try the experiment of keeping from school, for a short period, such boys as would not learn, and were hindering others, which has proved very successful; they then learned the value of their privilege by its loss, and very soon requested to be restored to it again, promising to make a better use of it for the future.

Out of 168 boys (the number in the junior prison during the year), 29 only were reported for misconduct: 1, four times; 1, three times; 5, twice; 22, once. Many of these offences were trivial in themselves, yet such as to require our notice, in order to an admonition or some slight correction, as might be found necessary.

The following were the offences for which they were reported to me:—12 for insolence to the masters; 6 for gambling; 6 for damaging school-books; 5 for quarrelling and ill-using their fellow prisoners. The remaining reports were for idleness and indolence during the school hours.

The accompanying tables will show the state of the school during the year. By a reference to Table No. 1, it will be seen that of the 115 boys who were in the junior wards at the end of the year 1854, but 36 could read well or tolerably at admission, and 17 could spell and 26 write tolerably, and 19 could work out some of the higher rules of compound arithmetic, and but 3 had any considerable amount of Scriptural and general knowledge; but at the end of the year 1855 we find the following results, viz., 71 out of the 115 can read well, and 27 tolerably, leaving but 17 who still read imperfectly or scarcely at

all; now, also, 88 of the number can spell well or tolerably, and upwards of 100 can write ditto; in arithmetic, 75 of the number are doing the higher and compound rules generally; and of 58 that could scarcely make figures, but 10 are now in that low state. It will be perceived, also, that although on admission but 3 were found to have any considerable amount of Scriptural and general knowledge, and 86 were very ignorant or had but little idea of subjects generally taught in schools; now 59 have much or considerable Scriptural and general knowledge, and there are only 14 who may be said to have but little general knowledge. The very important "*attention*" and "*conduct*" columns also speak most favourably of the state of the school; and the account is still further carried out in Table No. 2, where it is shown that about 80 out of 115 boys have made much or considerable intellectual and moral improvement. More than two-thirds of them have likewise been free from censure for misconduct of any kind during the year. Report of the Chaplain, &c. of the Junior Wards.

To complete the tables, an account of the acquirements and conduct of the 53 boys received during the year 1855 is added to that of the above-mentioned 115 boys, and the entire total of these matters, referring to 168 boys who have been under instruction during the year, is given.

The evening school goes on very successfully; it is greatly appreciated by the prisoners, and operates as a great stimulus to good conduct; we have not had so many degraded from it as in former years. Evening school.

The average number during the year has been 52; of the boys transferred to the senior prison 22 were of this class, still at the end of the year we had 52 on the roll.

The Chaplain's duties in the junior wards, probationary ward, and infirmary have been performed as in former years. The Bible class on Sunday evenings I still continue, with occasional exceptions, dividing the entire prison into six classes.

It is with much gratification that I am enabled to report most favourably of the schoolmasters and officers in these wards; all are zealously united in seeking the welfare of the prison and the benefit of the prisoners.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your faithful and obedient servant,

JOHN J. SPEAR,

*Chaplain and Superintendent of the Junior Wards.*

*To the Chairman and Directors*
*of Convict Prisons.*

TABLE I.—Giving the Total ACQUIREMENTS of the 115 PRISONERS on the Junior Wards School Register at the end of the Year 1854 (including their Attention and Conduct while under School Instruction), 53 of whom were discharged in the Year 1855, and one is deceased, the remaining 61 being still on the School Register; to which is added the Acquirements of 54 Boys who have joined the Junior Wards at various periods of the Year 1855, together with the Total State of 168 Boys who have been on the School Roll during the Year.

| | | Reading. | | | | | Spelling. | | | | | Writing. | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Well. | Tolerably. | Imperfectly. | Scarcely at all | Not at all. | Well. | Tolerably. | Imperfectly. | Scarcely at all. | Not at all. | Well. | Tolerably. | Imperfectly. | Scarcely at all. | Not at all. |
| Acquirements of 53 Boys discharged, and 1 deceased - - - - - | At Admission - - - | 3 | 17 | 17 | 15 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 18 | 22 | 6 | 1 | 14 | 18 | 20 | 1 |
| State of the above 54 Boys - - - | When Discharged - - | 34 | 11 | 5 | 4 | — | 25 | 16 | 7 | 6 | — | 31 | 16 | 3 | 4 | — |
| Acquirements of 61 Boys still remaining on Roll - - - - - - | At Admission - - - | — | 16 | 16 | 29 | — | — | 9 | 19 | 26 | 7 | — | 11 | 20 | 28 | 2 |
| State of the above 61 Boys - - - | On Dec 31, 1855 - - | 37 | 16 | 7 | 1 | — | 26 | 21 | 12 | 2 | — | 29 | 25 | 7 | — | — |
| Total State of the above 115 Prisoners - | At Admission - - - | 3 | 33 | 33 | 44 | 2 | 1 | 16 | 37 | 48 | 13 | 1 | 25 | 38 | 48 | 3 |
| | On Dec. 31, 1854 - - | 71 | 27 | 12 | 5 | — | 51 | 37 | 19 | 8 | — | 60 | 41 | 10 | 4 | — |
| Acquirements of 53 Boys who have joined the Junior Wards during the Year 1855 | At Admission - - - | 3 | 17 | 15 | 14 | 4 | — | 6 | 22 | 16 | 9 | 2 | 11 | 23 | 12 | 5 |
| | On Dec. 31, 1855 - - | 7 | 21 | 17 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 23 | 15 | 4 | 2 | 21 | 21 | 8 | 1 |
| Total State of 168 Boys who have been on the School Roll during the Year - | At Admission - - - | 6 | 50 | 48 | 58 | 6 | 1 | 22 | 59 | 64 | 22 | 3 | 36 | 61 | 60 | 8 |
| | On Dec. 31, 1855 - - | 78 | 48 | 29 | 12 | 1 | 52 | 47 | 42 | 23 | 4 | 62 | 62 | 31 | 12 | 1 |

TABLE I.—Giving the Total ACQUIREMENTS of the 115 PRISONERS on the Junior Wards School Register – *continued.*

| | | Arithmetic. | | | | | Scriptural and General Geography. | | | | | Attention. | | | Conduct. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Higher Rules. | Compound Rules. | Simple Rules. | Addition. | Figures. | Much. | Consider-able. | Some. | Little. | Very ignorant. | Great. | Moderate. | Little. | Good. | Indifferent. | Bad. |
| Acquirements of 53 Boys discharged, and 1 deceased - - - - - | At Admission - - | 1 | 7 | 18 | 21 | 7 | — | 3 | 10 | 20 | 21 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| State of the above 54 Boys - - - | When Discharged - | 26 | 12 | 11 | 5 | — | 17 | 13 | 16 | 6 | 2 | 41 | 12 | 1 | 48 | 5 | 1 |
| Acquirements of 61 Boys still remaining on Roll - - - - - - | At Admission - - | 1 | 10 | 20 | 24 | 6 | — | — | 16 | 24 | 21 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| State of the above 61 Boys - - - | On Dec. 31, 1855 - - | 20 | 17 | 19 | 5 | — | 8 | 21 | 26 | 6 | — | 38 | 14 | 9 | 43 | 12 | 6 |
| Total State of the above 115 Prisoners - | At Admission - - | 2 | 17 | 38 | 45 | 13 | — | 3 | 26 | 44 | 42 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | On Dec. 31, 1855 - - | 46 | 29 | 30 | 10 | — | 25 | 34 | 42 | 12 | 2 | 79 | 26 | 10 | 91 | 17 | 7 |
| Acquirements of 53 Boys who have joined the Junior Wards during the Year 1855 | At Admission - - | 1 | 6 | 17 | 20 | 9 | — | — | 14 | 23 | 16 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | On Dec. 31, 1855 - - | 2 | 11 | 23 | 11 | 6 | — | — | 22 | 23 | 8 | 25 | 21 | 7 | 38 | 13 | 2 |
| Total State of 168 Boys who have been on the School Roll during the Year - - | At Admission - - | 3 | 23 | 55 | 65 | 22 | — | 3 | 40 | 67 | 58 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | On Dec. 31, 1854 - - | 48 | 40 | 53 | 21 | 6 | 25 | 34 | 64 | 35 | 10 | 104 | 47 | 17 | 129 | 30 | 9 |

Report of the Chaplain, &c. of the Junior Wards.

TABLE II.—Showing more particularly the DISPOSITIONS and CAPACITIES, and the MORAL and INTELLECTUAL STATE, of the 168 Boys referred to in Table I., as exhibited by them since their Admission to the Junior Prison.

| | Apparent Intellectual Capacity. | | | Intellectual Improvement. | | | | | Moral Improvement. | | | | | | Boys whose Dispositions seem to have led to | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Good. | Moderate. | Little. | Much. | Considerable. | Some. | Little. | None. | Much. | Considerable. | Some | Little. | Doubtful. | None. | Order. | Disorder. | Doubtful. |
| State of 54 Boys struck off the Register during the year 1855 - | 25 | 16 | 13 | 23 | 13 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 25 | 16 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 37 | 7 | 10 |
| State of the remaining 61 Boys out of the 115 on Roll at the end of the year 1854 - | 37 | 18 | 6 | 21 | 18 | 17 | 4 | 1 | 26 | 14 | 9 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 44 | 11 | 6 |
| Total state of the above 115 Boys who were left on the School Register at the end of the year 1854 - - | 62 | 34 | 19 | 44 | 31 | 26 | 9 | 5 | 51 | 30 | 13 | 6 | 6 | 9 | 81 | 18 | 16 |
| State of 53 Boys who have joined the Junior Wards during the year, and are at present on Roll - - | 17 | 26 | 10 | – | 10 | 14 | 18 | 17 | – | 6 | 23 | 15 | 5 | 4 | 32 | 15 | 6 |
| Total state of 168 Boys who have received Scholastic Instruction during the year - | 79 | 60 | 29 | 44 | 41 | 40 | 27 | 16 | 51 | 36 | 36 | 21 | 11 | 13 | 113 | 33 | 22 |

# IV.

## MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

*Parkhurst Prison, Isle of Wight,*
*January* 9, 1856.

GENTLEMEN,

IN conformity to the printed instructions, I transmit the Medical Report for the year 1855. Medical Officer's Report.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Remaining January 1st, 1855 | | 536 |
| Received from Millbank | | 94 |
| Revoked Tickets of Leave | | 6 |
| | | 636 |
| Removed during the year | 203 | |
| Deaths | 2 | |
| | | 205 |
| | | 431 |

Greatest number in infirmary, 52 ; lowest number, 5.

The majority of the prisoners received have been healthy and robust; most have satisfactory evidence of having had small or cow pox; doubtful cases have been re-vaccinated, and in two instances successfully.

The health of the inmates of the establishment has been very favourable; as all the circumstances of labour, lodging, clothing, and diet are the same, there is a great uniformity in the character of the diseases; and even the proportion of the sick varies but little from year to year.

Scrofulous disorders, which were unusually prevalent in 1854, have again diminished; two of the most severe cases under treatment have been of this class. One of the patients, whose neck is covered with cicatrices of former ulcers, had abscess of the left kidney, and was for some time in a perilous state. In the second boy, in addition to extensive ulcerations in the neck, side of the chest, and left leg, there was disease of the cartilages of the left elbow joint, the consequence of a slight blow while at play, and which at the time he scarcely noticed. The general health became so impaired in consequence that the patient was anxious to have the limb removed, and it was amputated, since which the general health has very much improved.

Table No. 1 contains the list of infirmary cases, which were generally of a mild character.

Medical Officer's Report.

Table No. 2 enumerates the ailments treated in the wards, which were all of a trifling nature.

Table No. 3 shows the deaths for the year, which are only 2, or about 0·42 per cent., and both are exceptional, and ought to be excluded in estimating the sanitary condition of the establishment. The first boy joined on the 17th of November 1854, and from his sick and feeble appearance was immediately put under observation, and in a few days removed to the infirmary. He had evidence of incipient phthisis and of renal disease, and complained of abdominal uneasiness and, when questioned, of headache. His pulse was always quick, and he was dull and listless. He was always more anxious to speak of the ill-treatment he had received from his friends previous to his conviction than of personal suffering. He rose from his bed at 4 A.M. of the 27th of February, and told the boys in the ward that he should ask to have a seton inserted in his side, as he felt some pain. He was found dead in his bed at 7.15 A.M. On dissection, the left lobes of the lungs were found to be tuberculated, and in some places adherent to the pleura costalis. There was some dilatation of the left ventricle of the heart, and a small quantity of serum in the pericardium. In the abdomen, the liver was enlarged, weighing 3 lbs. 9 oz., and the spleen 1 lb. 3 oz., but they did not appear otherwise diseased. The kidneys were twice the usual size, weighing, the one 8 oz. and the other 9 oz., and the left was much congested. As none of these appearances could account for his sudden death, I inspected the head, and found to my surprise every convolution of the pia mater deeply congested, and the ventricles filled with serum. There was no evident functional disease during life, and no suspicion was entertained of the extent of disease which the inspection of the head revealed. The second boy died from poison. I was called at 6 A.M. on the 6th of October to visit him at the junior prison, and attended immediately, but found he had just died. Shortly afterwards a prisoner, No. 113, communicated facts which proved the cause of death. The evidence given by him before the jury was to the following effect:—He said the deceased applied to him to tell him how to make himself ill to get into the infirmary for the winter, saying that he succeeded last year by running a needle into his knee; 113 told him that he had himself got in by taking pills made of soap and glass. They, however, thought this would be insufficient, and they mixed soap with the thick and green oily substance exuding from the pump, where the iron handles work in brass sockets. This contains what is usually known as brass verdigris. A dozen pills were made, the boy said about the usual size, but a specimen he showed me was larger, and must have weighed from eight to ten grains. Six pills were taken in the morning of the 5th, and produced sickness and headache. He requested I might not be sent for, as he was sure he should soon be better, and he was much relieved as the day advanced. The deceased said to No. 113 that the pills did not make him "bad enough," and he took the remaining six to his cell, and as they were not to be found he must have swallowed them, and so destroyed himself. On dissection, inflammation was found to a great extent

Medical Officer's Report.

at the pyloric orifice of the stomach, increasing in the duodenum and jejunum, where the mucous membranes were in a state approaching gangrene, and diminishing in the ilium, and intense only in patches. The inflammation extended to the peritonial coverings of the intestines, and even to the omentum, which was of a bright red. I tried the usual chemical tests, but failed to detect the presence of copper either in the intestines or in the substance taken, but a portion of the latter, sent to an analytic chemist in London, was found, after the oil which prevented the action of the tests had been burnt off, to contain a large quantity of copper. Death was unusually rapid for poison of the salts of copper, and many symptoms which generally attend were absent, no vomiting or purging took place in the night, but the pain he suffered must have been agonizing; but he did not call for assistance in the night, being probably unaware of his danger.

I have entered more fully into this case than I should have done, as it demonstrates the tricks practised by many of these juveniles to avoid labour. I believe that nearly all affections of the alimentary canal that occur are designedly produced. An instance occurred of a boy inflicting a wound on his knee with a knife, to get into the infirmary to renew a closer acquaintance with an associate. Some gamble away their food, and then apply for assistance to remove the debility occasioned by this voluntary starvation. One severe case of disease resulted from this cause. One boy feigned insanity, and for some time obstinately refused food, but was cured by aid of the stomach-pump. Another shammed fits, which he at last confessed he had been taught to counterfeit by a prisoner in Hull gaol. The production of ophthalmia, by putting lime and other irritants into the eyes, and the making deep ulcers by similar means not unfrequently occur. These practices are generally resorted to by new comers, and diminish after being here some time; their characters become known, and they get more habituated to the labours they at first so unwillingly perform.

The most effectual means I have found to counteract feigned diseases, and those designedly produced, is to treat the patients, when practicable, in separation. Boys are naturally restless and fond of change, and when deprived of the company of their companions they get tired of acting a part which is attended with so much discomfort.

Scarlatina, which has prevailed epidemically in so many parts of the kingdom, and which has been so fatal in its progress, has severely visited the families of the officers of this establishment; four children have died from its effects, and the recovery of all who were attacked was slow. One adult was affected. The prisoners have, as usual, enjoyed a perfect immunity from all epidemic and contagious diseases.

There has been but little sickness among the subordinate officers, who are all healthy and efficient.

The alterations in the junior wards are all completed, and the present arrangements leave nothing to be desired.

Medical Officer's Report.

All measures tending to the preservation of health, attention to the drainage of the grounds and residences, the regulation of the temperature of the dormitories, and the cleanliness and ventilation of the buildings, receive all the attention their importance merits, and although steady out-of-door labour is very repugnant to the taste and feelings of many who are sent to this establishment, there is no doubt they are as beneficial to the health and development of the generality of the prisoners as the habits induced by the discipline they are subjected to, is to fit them to become hereafter useful members of society.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient servant,
G. H. Dabbs, *Surgeon R.N.*,
*Medical Officer.*

*To the Chairman and Directors*
*of Convict Prisons.*

TABLE I.—CASES of SICKNESS treated in the INFIRMARY.

Medical Officer's Report.

| | Wards. | | | | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | General. | Junior. | Probationary. | Refractory. | |
| **(1.) ZYMOTIC DISEASE.** | | | | | |
| Diarrhœa | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| Erythema | 1 | 1 | - | - | 2 |
| **(2.) SPORADIC DISEASE.** | | | | | |
| Hæmoptysis | 3 | 2 | - | 1 | 6 |
| Incip. Phthisis | - | 1 | 2 | - | 3 |
| Scrofula | 4 | 5 | 2 | - | 11 |
| Ulcer | 7 | - | - | - | 7 |
| Pernio | 44 | 1 | - | - | 45 |
| Debility | 2 | 1 | - | - | 3 |
| Porrigo | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| **(3.) SPORADIC DISEASE OF SPECIAL SYSTEM.** | | | | | |
| Hysteria | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Ophthalmia | 13 | 10 | 1 | - | 24 |
| Incip. Amaurosis | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Mania (feigned) | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Epilepsy | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Otalgia | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Chorea | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| **RESPIRATORY ORGANS.** | | | | | |
| Cynanche | 11 | - | 1 | - | 12 |
| Catarrh | 80 | 23 | - | 2 | 105 |
| Bronchitis | 2 | - | 1 | - | 3 |
| **DIGESTIVE ORGANS.** | | | | | |
| Dyspepsia | 12 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 20 |
| Obstipatio | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Hernia | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Icterus | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| **URINARY ORGANS.** | | | | | |
| Albuminuria | - | 3 | - | - | 3 |
| **ORGANS OF GENERATION.** | | | | | |
| Orchitis | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| **ORGANS OF LOCOMOTION.** | | | | | |
| Rheumatism | 21 | 10 | 3 | 1 | 35 |
| Tinea Capitis | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Necrosis | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Inflamation of knee joint | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| **INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM.** | | | | | |
| Phlogosis | 31 | 6 | 1 | - | 38 |
| Impetigo | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Lepra | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| **EXTERNAL CAUSES.** | | | | | |
| Contusion | 4 | - | - | - | 4 |
| Vulnus | 9 | 2 | - | 1 | 12 |
| Fracture | - | 2 | - | - | 2 |
| Sprain | 1 | 2 | - | - | 3 |
| Burn | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Total | 261 | 79 | 17 | 8 | 365 |

Medical Officer's Report.

TABLE II.—CASES of CASUAL SICK treated in their CELLS.

| | Wards. | | | | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | General. | Junior. | Probationary. | Refractory. | |
| Catarrhal affections | 111 | 89 | 7 | 5 | 212 |
| Diarrhœa | 40 | 16 | 5 | 2 | 63 |
| Scrofula | - | - | 9 | - | 9 |
| Dyspepsia | 14 | 15 | - | - | 29 |
| Rheumatism | 12 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 24 |
| Phlogosis | 29 | 15 | 3 | 3 | 50 |
| Ophthalmia | 3 | 7 | - | - | 10 |
| Pernio | 12 | 6 | 1 | - | 19 |
| Cephalalgia | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Vulnus | 4 | 4 | 4 | - | 12 |
| Vaccination | - | 1 | 1 | - | 2 |
| Hæmoptysis | - | 1 | - | 1 | 2 |
| Minor accidents — Burn | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Minor accidents — Sprain | 1 | 3 | - | - | 4 |
| Minor accidents — Wound | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Cutaneous affections — Eczema | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Cutaneous affections — Porrigo | - | - | 7 | - | 7 |
| Total | 227 | 169 | 39 | 12 | 447 |

TABLE III.—NUMBER of DEATHS in the Year.

| Name. | Ward. | Age. | Date of Reception. | First Appearance of Disease. | Died. | How long in Prison before Death. | Disease. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G. R. | Probationary. | 16 $\frac{3}{12}$ | 17 Nov. 1854. | 17 Nov. 1854. | 27 Feb. 1855. | 3 months and 10 days. | Hydrocephalus. |
| P. B. | Junior | 17 $\frac{7}{12}$ | 17 Mar. 1851. | - | 6th Oct. 1855. | 4 years, 6 months and 19 days. | Poison. |

N.B.—The Coroner's inquest returned a verdict of Natural Death of the first-named prisoner, and the latter of having died from poison taken with the intent to produce sickness, and not to destroy life.

Medical Officer's Report.

TABLE IV.—METEOROLOGICAL RECORD kept during the Year 1855.

| | Thermometer. | | | Barometer. | | | Pluviometer. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Mean of Maximum. | Mean of Minimum. | Mean. | Lightest. | Lowest. | Average. | Rain guaged during the Month. |
| | ° | ° | ° | | | | Inch. pts. |
| January | $40\frac{14}{31}$ | $29\frac{27}{31}$ | $35\frac{10}{62}$ | — | — | — | — |
| February | $33\frac{15}{28}$ | $25\frac{11}{28}$ | $29\frac{27}{56}$ | — | — | — | — |
| March | $43\frac{1}{31}$ | $30\frac{25}{31}$ | $37\frac{4}{11}$ | — | — | — | — |
| April | $53\frac{3}{30}$ | $34\frac{21}{30}$ | $43\frac{17}{30}$ | — | — | — | — |
| May | $56\frac{14}{31}$ | $39\frac{27}{31}$ | $47\frac{21}{31}$ | — | — | — | — |
| June | $64\frac{3}{15}$ | $45\frac{14}{30}$ | $54\frac{15}{30}$ | — | — | — | — |
| July | $69\frac{15}{31}$ | $51\frac{6}{31}$ | $60\frac{21}{62}$ | 20·20 | 29·60 | 29·90 | 2·63 |
| August | $68\frac{6}{31}$ | $49\frac{28}{31}$ | $59\frac{34}{62}$ | 30·38 | 29·60 | 29·99 | 2·30 |
| September | $62\frac{25}{30}$ | $44\frac{9}{15}$ | $53\frac{43}{60}$ | 30·36 | 29·40 | 29·88 | 4·83 |
| October | $53\frac{19}{31}$ | $41\frac{28}{31}$ | $47\frac{45}{62}$ | 30·20 | 29·10 | 29·65 | 9·45 |
| November | $43\frac{1}{30}$ | $32\frac{19}{30}$ | $37\frac{50}{60}$ | 30·28 | 29·20 | 29·74 | 1·5 |
| December | $37\frac{28}{31}$ | $29\frac{21}{31}$ | $33\frac{47}{62}$ | 30·27 | 29·12 | 29·69 | 2·31 |
| Average mean temperature of the Year 1855 | 52 | 38 | 45 | — | — | — | — |

TABLE V.—DAILY NUMBER of PRISONERS, Per-centage of Sick, &c.

| | Wards. | | | | Total. | Infirmary. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | General. | Junior. | Probationary. | Refractory. | | |
| Average daily Number of Prisoners | 325·638 | 123·863 | 36·378 | — | 485·879 | — |
| Average daily Numoer of Sick treated in their cells | 0·622 | 0·463 | 0·106 | 0·032 | 1·224 | — |
| Average daily Number of Sick treated in the Infirmary | — | — | — | — | — | 17·986 |
| Number admitted in the Infirmary | 261 | 79 | 17 | 8 | 365 | — |

# V.

## STEWARD'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN, *Parkhurst Prison, January 9, 1856.*

Steward's Report.

IN obedience to your instructions, I have the honor to submit to you the following Report on the industrial employment of the prisoners for the past year.

No change has been made in the description of their employments since my last Report; the majority as heretofore having been engaged in the cultivation of the prison farm entirely by spade husbandry; and the usual number, forming the trades' classes, in the manufacture and repair of the shoes, clothing, bedding, &c., required for the use of the prison as well as the outfits of the prisoners who were liberated during the year.

The prisoners employed as mechanics rendered valuable assistance in executing the ordinary repairs of the officers' quarters, prison buildings, furniture, farm buildings, and implements, tools, &c., the whole of the new fittings of the workshops lately restored, and such new works as were ordered to be done.

The usual number of prisoners have been employed as brick-makers, cooks, washers, and bakers.

### *Manufacturing Department.*

*Tailoring.*—The class of tailors in the senior wards who were engaged during the previous year in making up soldiers' knapsacks, &c., making and repairing clothing for the officers of the establishment on their private account, at a fixed rate of charge, and the manufacture of the officers' uniform clothing, &c., continue to be employed on this kind of work with the best results.

The prisoners forming the class of tailors in the junior ward continue to make and to repair the whole of the ordinary prison clothing, and to prepare the principal part of the outfits for discharged prisoners.

The work in this department consisted principally in making the following articles.

*For Prison use.*

599 jackets,
583 waistcoats,
779 pairs of trowsers,
605 shirts,
676 flannel waistcoats,
148 pairs of socks,

besides neck and pocket handkerchiefs, braces, various articles of prison linen, bedding, &c., and the repair of all the prisoners' clothing

and bedding, &c. throughout the prison, which amounted on an average to about 622 articles weekly. Steward's Report.

*For Outfits on Liberation.*

75 jackets,
38 waistcoats,
65 pairs of trowsers (cloth, &c.),
15 „ „ (duck),
277 shirts (cotton),
223 shirts (flannel),

also kit-bags, towels, &c., necessary to complete the outfits.

*For Officers' Uniform Clothing.*

26 jackets,
52 trousers,
1 great coat,

with the usual amount of repairs allowed under this head of service.

*Soldiers' Clothing, &c., made up, viz.—*

60 jackets,
525 pairs of trowsers,
948 knapsacks.

*Shoemaking.*—The shoemakers' class continue to make and repair the whole of the boots and shoes and leather caps worn by the prisoners, besides executing a considerable amount of work on the private account of officers of the establishment and their families. By this means they become better acquainted with the details of their trade than they possibly could if limited to the ordinary prison work.

The work done by this class on the prison account consisted principally in making the following articles viz. :—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Strong boots for use on the farm - - - | 26 | pairs. |
| New boots for ordinary prison wear - - | 272 | „ |
| Shoes for prison use and outfits - - - | 1 | „ |
| Soft shoes for invalids - - - - | 11 | „ |
| Weekly average number of boots and shoes repaired | 170 | „ |

together with a great variety of other work, including the repair of hammocks and straps, leather caps, &c., &c.

*Brickyard.*—The work of the brickyard has been carried on during the year in a satisfactory manner, and considering the quality of the materials and the inexperience of the prisoners employed at this trade, the bricks, tiles, &c., produced were very creditable, both as regards the quality and quantity.

The daily average of prisoners employed was 18, and they made during the year—

200,000 bricks (of various kinds),
30,000 tiles (small drain),
9,000 (9-inch),

besides other kinds of tiles, and burnt 112 yards of lime for the use of the building department and gasworks, and 70 yards of lime for farming purposes. As in previous years the prisoners were instructed and took an active part in the general duties of the yard, including

Steward's Report.

setting and unloading the brick kiln, attending to the fires, &c., the care of the lime kiln, and a variety of other work connected with the trade.

*Washhouse and Laundry.*—The usual number of prisoners were engaged under the superintendence of the officer appointed for that duty, in doing the whole of the washing, mangling, &c., of the linen, bedding, &c., throughout the prison.

The weekly average number of articles washed amounted to 2600.

*Bakery.*—Four prisoners under the direction of the master baker baked the whole of the bread used for victualling the prisoners throughout the establishment and also for officers' rations.

The weekly average quantity made and baked in the required form was 45 cwt.

*Cookhouses.*—A party of prisoners were employed as usual under the superintendence of the master cook, in each of the kitchens, in cooking and serving up the prisoners' meals and doing the work connected with it.

The number so engaged were,

1 master cook and 4 prisoners for the general wards.
1 „ 3 „ junior wards.

The following table shows the average number of prisoners employed in the manufacturing department during the year, viz.—

| | |
|---|---|
| Tailors | 49 |
| Shoemakers | 30 |
| Brickmakers | 18 |
| Washers | 8 |
| Bakers | 4 |
| Cooks | 7 |

*Gasworks.*—The gasworks continue to furnish in a satisfactory manner the gas required throughout the establishment.

One prisoner is constantly employed in assisting the gas maker in charging the retorts, stoking, &c., and the general work of the yard. The coke produced is of good quality, and is consumed in warming and ventilating the wards, schools, and chapel.

During the summer, when the gasworks are not in operation the gas maker and his assistant are employed in clearing and repairing the gas-fittings and rendering assistance in the smith's shop.

*Agricultural Department.*—It is again my pleasing duty to report favourably on the industrial occupation of the prisoners employed on the farm during the year.

After making due allowance for the improved condition of the land, it having become lighter and more easily managed, an improvement in the manner of executing the fieldwork especially, is distinctly noticeable.

Only one field of 10 acres remains to be drained, which is now in hand and will be completed during the current year; with this exception, the whole of the prison farm may now be said to be in excellent condition, a fact fully borne out by the crops of last season.

The wheat was particularly fine; far superior to any crop of the kind in this part of the country; and the same may be said of the

potatoes and mangel wurzel, the former averaging on 10 acres upwards of 10 tons per acre, and the latter on 11 acres, 35 tons per acre; all the other root and grain crops were good, especially the beans, which averaged 71 lbs. per bushel.

In consequence of the very dry weather which prevailed during the spring and early summer months, the crop of hay was light, but for the future this will not be likely to occur in consequence of the application of liquid manure by means of distributing pipes connected to cast iron mains now in course of being laid.

There is an inexhaustable supply of this kind of manure of first rate quality to be collected from the barrack and prison sewers in the pond in field number 9, where it is proposed to fix the existing force pump, to be worked by a party of prisoners in distributing the manure over the five fields lying on the southern boundary of the estate, and the most favourable results may be expected.

The dairy continues to furnish in a satisfactory manner, the whole of the milk and butter required in victualling the prisoners, and for use in the infirmary.

As I stated in my last report upon the flax crop, we have now in a great measure mastered the difficulties attending the cultivation and steeping, and the majority of the prisoners employed have acquired a very fair knowledge of hand scutching.

Taking the whole of the flax grown here from the commencement of the experiment (when of course we were not in a position to turn it to account as we are now), the average gross produce per acre has been 33*l.* 6*s.* when dressed and sold.

As heretofore a small party of prisoners carried on the work of the farmyard, which has now become very considerable, and consists in feeding and attending to the pigs, preparing the food, &c., milking and feeding the cows, cleaning the cowhouses, stables, and other farm buildings, and a great variety of other work connected with the care and management of the farmyard.

In addition to the ordinary work of the farm in preparing the land attending to, and harvesting the crops, haymaking, &c., about 12 acres of grass land were effectually drained, and 3 acres of field number 1, trenched and double dug, besides much other work including the repair of roads, &c., and the excavations for laying a barrel drain along the course of the brook from the farm buildings to the pond in field number 9.

*Buildings.*—The assistance derived from prisoners' labour was considerable, and consequently the work of the building department generally has been carried on with fewer hired mechanics and labourers than would otherwise have been possible. Still the labour of young unskilled and inexperienced lads employed as mechanics cannot be compared with that of men who have served a term of apprenticeship at their trades.

Amongst the larger and more important works executed during the year may be enumerated the following, viz.—

Laying a barrel drain from the farm buildings along the line of the brook, and under the bridge on the high road, to the pond in field number 9, to collect and carry off the offensive sewerage of the establishment.

Steward's Report.

Extensive alterations in the cookhouse and scullery of the junior wards, and a new cook's store built and fitted up.

The whole of the fittings of the workshops, laundry, and wash-house, bakery, smithy, &c., having been executed by the prison staff, prisoners' labour was employed wherever it could be made available.

Building a range of new privies in A ward parade, removing old privies, and alterations in Deputy Governor's Office.

Building new kitchen, a bedroom, and fitting up a study in house occupied by Chaplain of the junior wards.

Taking down old, and building in new retorts in gashouse, and building wall to enclose purifying house at gasworks.

Preparing and fixing the whole of the gas-fittings of the west wing of the junior ward, and the workshops, &c. of the senior prison, besides a great variety of other work, including fixing the new weigh-bridge lately purchased for the use of the farm. Sundry painting, glazing, paperhanging in the officers' quarters, and throughout the establishment, as it became necessary, and was ordered to be done; sundry repairs of tools and farm implements, &c., making and repairing flax-dressing tools, repair of furniture, manufacture and repair of tin ware, gas-fittings, &c.

The following table will show the average number of prisoners employed as artificers, viz.—

| | |
|---|---|
| Carpenters - - - - - | 6 |
| Painters, paper-hangers, and glaziers - - | 3 |
| Bricklayers and masons - - - - | 10 |
| Bricklayers' labourers - - - - | 6 |
| Smiths and engineers, &c. - - - | 3 |
| Sawyers - - - - - - | 2 |

In reviewing the industrial department of the prison for the past year I have considerable satisfaction in stating that a decided and visible improvement has taken place in the execution of the work of the trades' classes as well as in that of the prisoners employed on the farm, and I have no hesitation in adding that with the facilities now offered for acquiring a knowledge of some useful occupation, all prisoners leaving this establishment after the usual term of residence, can have no reasonable excuse for not being able in some way to support themselves by honest industry.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble servant,

*To the Directors of Convict Prisons.*

HENRY STRICKLAND,
*Steward.*

# REPORT

OF THE

# DIRECTORS OF CONVICT PRISONS

ON THE

## DISCIPLINE AND MANAGEMENT

OF

# MILLBANK PRISON.

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# MILLBANK PRISON.

## REPORT,

For the Year 1855, of the Directors of the Convict Prisons made, as regards Millbank Prison, in pursuance of the 5 Vict. cap. 29, sec. 13;—specifying the State of the Buildings; the Behaviour and Conduct of the Officers of the Prison, and of the Convicts, the Amount of the Earnings of the Convicts, and the Expense of the Prison; and such other Matters relating to the Discipline and Management thereof, as they shall deem expedient, or the Secretary of State shall direct.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.*

To the Right Honourable Sir GEORGE GREY, G.C.B.,
*Secretary of State for the Home Department.*

Sir, 45, *Parliament Street*, 1856.

We beg to submit the following Report upon the subjects we are required to notice under the provisions of the above Act.

### *Buildings.*

Buildings.

The buildings are in substantial repair.

No material alterations or additions have been made since our last Report.

### *Conduct of the Officers.*

Conduct of the officers.

The superior officers have continued to display the same zeal, firmness, forbearance, and aptitude for the performance of their several duties that we had to notice in former reports; and the subordinate officers, especially those who have been some time in the service, have given very general satisfaction.

## *Conduct of Prisoners.*

Conduct of prisoners.

The behaviour of the ordinary male prisoners has been as good as could have been expected. For particulars of reports and punishments, see the Governor's Report in the Appendix, page 82, and returns, page 87.

A few of the prisoners sent back to Millbank from prisons connected with the public works, in consequence of repeated acts of insubordination and outrage, and placed in the penal class under special discipline, have given trouble; but far less than might have been anticipated from such characters. Indeed, the effects of this second course of separation have been very remarkable, as the following return will prove.

CHARACTERS of PENAL CLASS PRISONERS when removed back to public works' prisons, after having passed from 9 to 12 months in Millbank Prison:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Good - - - - - | 20 |
| Indifferent - - - - | 4 |
| Bad - - - - - | 1 |
| Total removed in 1855 - - | 25 |

We are glad to be able to add that a large majority of those who have gone through the penal class have, when again tried on the public works, behaved themselves satisfactorily.

## *Number and Disposal of Prisoners.*

Number and disposal of prisoners.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| The Number of male prisoners remaining on the 1st January 1855, was - - - - - | | 697 |
| And we received during the year from convict prisons— | | |
| Dartmoor - - - - - | 8 | |
| Portsmouth - - - - - | 2 | |
| Portland - - - - - | 11 | |
| | | 21 |
| *Hulks*— | | |
| "Warrior" - - - - | 1 | |
| "Stirling Castle" - - - - | 1 | |
| "Defence" - - - - | 3 | |
| | | 5 |
| *Scotland*— | | |
| Perth Prison - - - | 67 | |
| | | 67 |
| Bermuda - - - - | 50 | |
| Gibraltar (re-tried) - - | 3 | |
| | | 53 |
| Carried forward - | | 843 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Brought forward | - | 843 |
| *Old Convicts from—* | | |
| Bethlehem Hospital - - - | 2 | |
| Fisherton Lunatic Asylum - - | 4 | |
| | | 6 |
| *Old Convicts from—* | | |
| Berwick, an escaped Prisoner from Dartmoor | 1 | |
| Ticket-of-leave, Guernsey - - | 1 | |
| | | 2 |
| Soldiers and sailors by courts-martial - | 28 | |
| | | 28 |
| From county and borough prisons - - | | 1,579 |
| Total | - | 2,458 |

These prisoners have been disposed of as follows; viz.—

| | |
|---|---|
| *To Convict Prisons,—* | |
| Parkhurst - - - - - | 94 |
| Pentonville - - - - - | 416 |
| Portland - - - - - | 640 |
| Dartmoor, invalids fit only for light labour - - | 207 |
| Portsmouth - - - - - | 176 |
| *To Western Australia,—* | |
| Per ship "Stag" - - - - - | 1 |
| ,, "William Hammond" - - - | 1 |
| *To Convict Hulks,—* | |
| "Warrior" - - | 133 |
| "Defence" - - - - - | 35 |
| "Stirling Castle" (invalids) - - - | 161 |
| To Bethlehem Hospital - - - - | 7 |
| To the Philanthropic Institution - - - | 11 |
| *To Gaols,—* | |
| Warwick - - - - - | 1 |
| Birmingham County Prison - - } | 2 |
| Canterbury ,, ,, - - - } | |
| Per ship "Joseph Shepherd" (conditional pardons) - | 2 |
| Free pardon - - - - - - | 1 |
| Time expired - - - - - - | 2 |
| Licences - - - | 52 |
| Died - - - - - - | 10 |
| Number remaining in the prison on the 31st December | 506 |
| Total - | 2,458 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Greatest number of male prisoners confined at any one time, 6th February - - - - | 1,090 |
| Daily average throughout the year - - | 824 |

## *Expenses of the Prison and Prisoners' productive Labour.*

Expenses. The total expenses of the prison for the financial year ending 31st of March 1856, exclusive of buildings, amount to 37,308*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.*, as shown under the proper heads in the Appendix, page 92, which is reduced by receipts for prisoners' labour to 31,862*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.*

Productive labour. The employment of the prisoners has been the same as last year. The various articles that have been made are enumerated in the Appendix, page 83, and the gross earnings of the prisoners are calculated at the sum of 4,864*l.* We must observe, however, that the number of prisoners profitably employed is far short of the entire number in the prison. At times there is an accumulation of invalids; at other times there is an influx of new prisoners unacquainted with any available trade, to be drafted to Pentonville, to Parkhurst, and to other prisons, who, while they swell the total number, are capable of adding but little to the prison earnings, and the changes are too uncertain to allow of any reasonable averages to be taken. The above sum may not appear large when considered relatively to the entire prison population, but, in respect of those actually at work for any period beyond that required for learning the merest rudiments of a trade, it must be considered satisfactory.

## *Health and Mental Condition of the Prisoners.*

Prisoners' health. Dr. Baly, the Medical Superintendent, has reported fully upon the sanitary condition of the prison and the prisoners, and supplied the usual statistical Tables, which will be found in the Appendix.

Deaths. Taking the last five years the deaths have been as follows:—

| Year. | Deaths per 1,000 prisoners, excluding deaths from cholera. |
|---|---|
| 1851 | 18 |
| 1852 | 30 |
| 1853 | 21 |
| 1854 | 32 |
| 1855 | 6 |

There were in all 11 deaths, of which 5 (viz., 4 men and 1 woman) were from epidemic cholera. The particulars are given in the Appendix, page 100.

None were pardoned on medical grounds.

Of insane prisoners 8 cases are reported, see Appendix page 102; 6 were removed to Bethlehem Hospital, and 2 recovered from insanity after a short period, though their intellects continued to be weak. Insanity.

No suicide has been reported. Suicides.

The general health has been particularly satisfactory. Besides there being a considerable diminution in the number of deaths, the number of sick under treatment in the infirmary, as well the daily trifling cases, have been less than in former years. Fever, dysentery, and erysipelas have not been nearly so fatal, and there have been comparatively fewer instances of diarrhœa, which, as Dr. Baly remarks, is one of the special tests of the healthiness of Millbank Prison. General health.

Dr. Baly ascribes this general improvement, in a great measure, to the use of purer water than had been previously supplied. He remarks:—

"It followed quickly upon the substitution of the artesian well water for the Thames water with which the prisoners were previously supplied; and it is most probably in great part due to the greater purity of the water at present in use.

"It may be hoped, therefore, that this improved health of the establishment will, at all events to some extent, be permanent. But it is not to be expected that the convicts in Millbank prison will henceforth suffer as little from diarrhœa, dysentery, fever, and erysipelas as the convicts in prisons differently situated. During the past year, indeed, all those disorders have been prevalent, though in a diminished degree. The occurrence of cholera too in the autumn with such severity as to cause five deaths, while its existence in London generally was scarcely noticed, shows that in future epidemics of that disease, the purity of the water drunk by the prisoners will afford them no absolute immunity from its ravages. The cause of cholera, as well as the cause of diarrhœa, dysentery, fever, and erysipelas is, it is clear, conveyed through some other medium than the water; and impure water probably renders the ravages of these diseases more intense merely by producing in a large number of persons a greater susceptibility of such disorders."

## *Religious and General Instruction.*

The Chaplain's report in the Appendix is satisfactory on the point of instruction. The system and details remain unaltered. Instruction.

## *Female Convicts.*

Owing to the number of female convicts, consequent upon the cessation of transportation, having increased beyond the accommodation in Brixton Prison, it was found necessary to resume a portion of Millbank Prison for this class of prisoners. One pentagon, capable of containing about 180 females, was given up accordingly, and re-occupied as a female prison the 22d of

February, under the management of Miss Dyer, promoted from being a principal matron at Brixton to the post of deputy superintendent at Millbank.

Millbank has thus been made available to carry into effect one portion of the system for treating female convicts. It forms the first stage of their punishment. As soon after their conviction as circumstances permit they are sent to this prison, where they are confined in separate cells, kept under very strict discipline, obliged to perform coarse work, such as picking oakum for a short time, making up heavy sheeting, &c. Four months are thus passed in what is termed the "probation class." At the end of that time their condition is improved, provided their conduct has been good, by passing into the third class, where some relaxation of discipline is allowed. They remain in the third class for a minimum period of six months, and then they are removed to Brixton Prison, where they enter the second stage of discipline, described in the report upon that establishment.

Misconduct in the subsequent stages renders them liable to be sent back to Millbank Prison, either to recommence their probation, or to be placed in the penal class.

For the first time this class has been established for female convicts. It is similar in all essential respects to that established for male convicts. It contains those who have so repeatedly misconducted themselves as to be deemed incorrigible under the ordinary process of prison discipline. To meet such extreme cases, 15 cells have been fitted up, and an airing yard specially appropriated, where one prisoner exercises at a time.

### *Reception and Disposal of Female Convicts.*

Female prisoners were received and disposed of as follows viz.:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Received from county and borough gaols | 251 |
| „ Brixton Prison (incorrigibles) | 12 |
| | 263 |
| Conduct of female officers. Removed to Brixton Prison | 101 |
| Died | 1 |
| Prisoners. Remaining in the prison on the 1st January 1856 | 161 |
| Total | 263 |
| The greatest number, 15th May | 196 |
| Daily average | 143 |

## *Conduct of Female Officers and Prisoners.*

We have every reason to be satisfied with the deputy superintendent, and the matrons attached to the department.

Of the 263 female convicts received into the prison during the year, 165 were not even reported for any misbehaviour; 167 were not punished. We regard this as a proof of the general good conduct of the mass of the females. On the other hand, the return, page 89, shows that 16 of them were reported very frequently. Of these 16, the greater number were prisoners in the penal class to which we have referred, who continue to be very bad in every respect, not even thinking it necessary to put on the appearance of decency or propriety. They are more difficult to deal with than any male prisoners whatever, because their health, their sex, their condition, render it impossible to coerce or to punish them as male prisoners may be coerced and punished, while, at the same time, they are more depraved, more violent, and more reckless of consequences to themselves.

The Chaplain reports his opinion of them as follows:—

"In the month of August some prisoners, whose habitual behaviour at Brixton had been disorderly and bad, or who had committed some act of violence, and on account of such misconduct were degraded to the "penal class," so called, were received, in order to be subjected to a particular discipline, and accordingly placed in a ward apart from the rest of the prisoners. Few of these women have shown any signs of amendment, and the language of some has occasionally been revolting in the extreme, evincing an utter recklessness of temper, and deadness to all feminine decency; whilst of the male prisoners belonging to the "penal class," it may reasonably be hoped that the greater number will, in due time, reinstate themselves in the "probationary class" by orderly prison conduct, (howbeit it would be too much to look for genuine reformation but in cases "few and far between,") such mere superficial amendment amongst the female prisoners of the corresponding class must, I apprehend, be regarded as exceptional. This is a gloomy picture, but it is unhappily too true; would it were otherwise."

Happily the number of these wretched women are very few, when compared with the entire body of female convicts.

We have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servants,
J. Jebb, Colonel, R.E.,
*Chairman.*
D. O'Brien,
*Director of Convict Prisons.*

# APPENDIX.

## I.

## GOVERNOR'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN, *Millbank Prison, January* 10, 1855.

Governor's Report.

I HAVE the honour to submit the usual annual Report of the state of this prison for the year 1855.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| The Number of male prisoners remaining on the 1st January 1855, was | | 697 |
| And we received during the year from convict prisons— | | |
| Dartmoor | 8 | |
| Portsmouth | 2 | |
| Portland | 11 | |
| | | 21 |
| *Hulks*— | | |
| "Warrior" | 1 | |
| "Stirling Castle" | 1 | |
| "Defence" | 3 | |
| | | 5 |
| *Scotland*— | | |
| Perth Prison | 67 | |
| | | 67 |
| Bermuda | 50 | |
| Gibraltar (re-tried) | 3 | |
| | | 53 |
| *Old Convicts from*— | | |
| Bethlehem Hospital | 2 | |
| Fisherton Lunatic Asylum | 4 | |
| | | 6 |
| *Old Convicts from*— | | |
| Berwick, an escaped Prisoner from Dartmoor | 1 | |
| Ticket-of-leave, Guernsey | 1 | |
| | | 2 |
| Soldiers and sailors by courts-martial | 28 | |
| | | 28 |
| From county and borough prisons | | 1,579 |
| Total | | 2,458 |

These prisoners have been disposed of as follows; viz.—

| | |
|---|---|
| *To Convict Prisons*,— | |
| Parkhurst | 94 |
| Pentonville | 416 |
| Portland | 640 |
| Dartmoor, invalids fit only for light labour | 207 |
| Portsmouth | 176 |
| Carried forward | 1,533 |

Governor's Report.

| | |
|---|---|
| Brought forward | 1,533 |
| *To Western Australia,—* | |
| Per ship "Stag" | 1 |
| „ "William Hammond" | 1 |
| *To Convict Hulks,—* | |
| "Warrior" | 133 |
| "Defence" | 35 |
| "Stirling Castle" (invalids) | 161 |
| To Bethlehem Hospital | 7 |
| To the Philanthropic Institution | 11 |
| *To Gaols,—* | |
| Warwick | 1 |
| Birmingham County Prison | 2 |
| Canterbury „ „ | |
| Per ship "Joseph Shepherd" (conditional pardons) | 2 |
| Free pardon | 1 |
| Time expired | 2 |
| Licences | 52 |
| Died | 10 |
| Number remaining in the prison on the 31st December | 506 |
| Total | 2,458 |

The female prison was again opened on the 22d of February, prisoners received and disposed of as follows; namely,—

| | |
|---|---|
| Received from county and borough gaols | 251 |
| „ Brixton Prison (incorrigibles) | 12 |
| | 263 |
| Removed to Brixton Prison | 101 |
| Died | 1 |
| Remaining in the prison on the 1st January 1856 | 161 |
| Total | 263 |

The greatest number of prisoners in confinement at any one time:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Males (6th February) | 1,090 |
| Females (15th May) | 196 |
| Daily average throughout the year:— | |
| Males | 824·5 |
| Females | 143·1 |
| Total | 967·6 |

*The State of the Buildings.*—The buildings are in a satisfactory state, and require nothing beyond the ordinary repairs. I have already reported to you the gradual sinking of the foundation of Pentagon One Tower.

*Conduct of the subordinate Officers.*—I have every reason to be satisfied with the conduct of the subordinate officers.

Governor's Report.

*Conduct and Treatment of Male Prisoners.*—On the whole, the conduct of the male prisoners has been satisfactory. The return of punishments in the appendix shows about the same amount of punishment during the past year, in ratio to the average number of prisoners as was exhibited in 1854.

The total number of male reports, including the juveniles, was 1,225; of which 375 were merely admonished, 154 deprived of one meal, and 484 sentenced to one day's bread and water; corporal punishment with the cat was awarded in the case of one adult prisoner, and two boys were whipped with the birch. I have added a return showing the number of prisoners reported during the year and those not reported; it will be seen in this return that the number of reports, namely 1,337, does not agree with the number of decisions as above, namely 1,225, this discrepancy is occasioned through various prisoners having two and even three reports against them in one day, and for which they only received one award of punishment.

I have to observe that the treadwheel, which was in the course o erection on my taking charge of the prison, was finished in July, and on the 28th of that month the penal class prisoners commenced working it.

I have also the gratification of stating, that permission having been granted, the system of employing a small number of men on special service, and clothed in a distinctive blue dress, was introduced on the 20th of March into Millbank, and has hitherto been quite successful. These men, about 8 or 9 in number, are selected from such as have never before been convicted, who are of industrious habits, and of short sentences.

A slight outbreak of cholera occured in course of the year, it commenced on the 15th of October, and ceased on the 22d of the same month; the deaths were four in number.

*Conduct and Treatment of Female Prisoners.*—Pentagon Three was opened on the 22d of February, for the reception of female prisoners; their conduct, as a body, has been good, and reflects much credit on Miss Dyer, deputy superintendent, and her staff of female officers; but on the 30th of August a class of women were sent here from Brixton Prison who, from their violent, disgraceful, obscene, and horribly outrageous conduct could no longer be tolerated there; these women, with some exceptions, have continued the same depraved course here; as a sequence, their shameful conduct militates against the discipline of the prison. They are termed incorrigibles, and belong to the penal class ward. In the appendix will be found returns similar to the male ones, showing the number of reports, punishments, &c.

*Escapes.*—There have been no escapes during the year, but at two different periods I had reason, from information, to suspect that in one instance a prisoner contemplated trying to make his escape by means of a skeleton key, and which was found on his person; and in the second case, 4 or 5 men employed as artizans, intended trying the same object, also through the means of skeleton keys.

The undermentioned statement of prisoners' earnings, and amount of work performed, applies to the entire year, viz., from 1st January

Governor's Report

to 31st December 1855. An arrangement, as you are aware, has been made to charge at the lowest possible prices all articles of prisoners' clothing, bedding, &c., manufactured by this prison for the other convict establishments; a small contingency only being added to the cost of the materials, to meet the amount of gratuities paid to instructing and other officers connected with the working department; consequently the amount of profit by convict labour is considerably reduced, but, as a set-off, the other convict establishments profit to the same extent.

During the 12 months to which this statement refers, there have been made in the prison and supplied to the victualling department, Somerset House, 12,058 navy Flushing jackets, and 323,255 biscuit bags.

The annexed statement likewise shows what other work has been performed by the convicts in Millbank. The contracts with the Government for supplying the jackets and bags above named are approaching their fulfilment.

*Profits.*—The gross earnings by prisoners' labour, for the entire year, notwithstanding the reductions alluded to above, will reach, in all probability, the sum of 4,864*l.*

STATEMENT of sundry GARMENTS, STORES, &c., made in the Manufacturing Department of Millbank Prison, for 12 months, from 1st of January to 31st of December 1855.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Military great coats | *No.* | 18,027 |
| Military trousers | „ | 2,760 |
| Prisoners' jackets | „ | 215 |
| Prisoners' waistcoats | „ | 1,439 |
| Prisoners' trousers | „ | 3,087 |
| Flannel garments | „ | 1,552 |
| Pouches | „ | 800 |
| Shirts | *No.* | 11,483 |
| Hammocks and bed sackings | „ | 388 |
| Shoes | „ | 4,389 |
| Navy jackets | „ | 12,058 |
| Shirting (woven) | *Yards* | 8,807 |
| Handkerchiefs (woven) | *No.* | 3,974 |
| Bagging (woven) | *Yards* | 169,345 |
| Beds | *No.* | 1,409 |
| Pillows | „ | 1,409 |
| Drabbet frocks | „ | 3,672 |
| Biscuit bags | „ | 325,255 |
| Articles of cooperage | „ | 1,269 |
| Shoes repaired | „ | 3,428 |
| Miscellaneous articles | „ | 21,085 |
| Uniform garments | „ | 111 |
| Waist belts | „ | 100 |

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient servant,
M. GAMBIER, *Governor.*

*The Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

Governor's Report.

RETURN showing the DAILY AVERAGE NUMBER of MALE and FEMALE CONVICTS in MILLBANK PRISON in the Year 1855, with the greatest Number of PRISONERS confined in the Establishment, of each Sex, at any one time during the Year; also the Number remaining in the Prison on the 1st January 1855, &c.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Daily average number, 1855 | Males | 824·5397 |
| | Females | 143·1698 |
| | Total | 967·7095 |
| Greatest number | Males (6th February) | 1090 |
| | Females (15th May) | 196 |
| In the Prison, 1st January 1855 | Males | 697 |
| | Females | .. |
| Received during the Year 1855 | Males | 1761 |
| | Females | 263 |
| Removed during the Year 1855 | Males | 1952 |
| | Females | 102 |
| In the Prison on the 1st January 1856 | Males | 506 |
| | Females | 161 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| On the 1st January 1855— | | | |
| Number of Convicts in Millbank Prison | | | 697 |
| Received during the year from— | | | |
| Convict Prisons | Portland | 11 | |
| | Dartmoor | 8 | |
| | Portsmouth | 2 | |
| | Perth | 67 | |
| | | | 88 |
| Convict Hulks | "Warrior" | 1 | |
| | "Stirling Castle" | 1 | |
| | "Defence" | 3 | |
| | | | 5 |
| Convict Stations | Gibraltar (re-tried) | 3 | |
| | Bermuda, viâ Portsmouth | 50 | |
| | | | 53 |
| Berwick | An escaped convict from Dartmoor Prison (former sentence). | 1 | |
| | | | 1 |
| County and Borough Prisons | | 1,579 | |
| Lunatic Asylum | Bethlem Hospital | 2 | |
| | Fisherton House | 4 | |
| Soldiers and Sailors, by sentence of General Courts-martial | | 28 | |
| Ticket of Leave revoked | | 1 | |
| | | | 1,614 |
| Total | | | 2,458 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Disposed of during the Year 1855 by— | | | |
| Transfers to Convict Prisons | Parkhurst | 94 | |
| | Pentonville | 416 | |
| | Portland | 640 | |
| | Dartmoor | 207 | |
| | Portsmouth | 176 | |
| | | | 1,533 |
| Transfers to Convict Hulks | "Warrior" | 133 | |
| | "Stirling Castle" | 161 | |
| | "Defence" | 35 | |
| | | | 329 |
| Western Australia | Ship "Stag" | 1 | |
| | "William Hammond" | 1 | |
| | | | 2 |
| Removals to | Lunatic Asylum, Bethlehem | 7 | |
| | Philanthropic Institution | 11 | |
| | Warwick County Gaol | 1 | |
| | | | 19 |
| Pardons | Free | 1 | |
| | Conditional to Canterbury Gaol | 1 | |
| | Conditional to Birmingham | 1 | |
| | Conditional to China | 2 | |
| | Time expired | 2 | |
| | Licence | 52 | |
| | | | 59 |
| Deaths | | | 10 |
| Numbers remaining 31st December 1855 | | | 506 |
| Total | | | 2,458 |



Governor's Report.

## Annual Statement of Female Convicts received and removed from this Prison in the Year 1855.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Received from Brixton Prison | | Removed to Brixton Prison | 101 |
| ,, County and Borough Gaols | 251 | Died | 1 |
| | | Remaining in the Prison 1st January 1856 | 161 |
| Total | 263 | Total | 263 |

## Return of Punishments of Male Convicts in Millbank Prison, for the Year 1855.

| Nature of Punishments. | Adults. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Juveniles. | | | | | | | General Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Whipped. | Admonished. | Days. 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 14 | One Meal. | Total. | Whipped. | Days. 1 | 2 | 3 | One Meal. | Admonished. | Total. | |
| Whipped - With a Cat | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Whipped - With a Birch | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| In Handcuffs | — | — | 8 | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 10 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 10 |
| Dark Cell - With Rations | — | — | 4 | 6 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 12 | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 2 | 14 |
| Dark Cell - On Bread and Water | — | — | 5 | 5 | 10 | — | 1 | — | 3 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 26 | — | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | 3 | 29 |
| Refractory Cell - With Rations | — | — | 4 | 8 | 7 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 22 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | — | 3 | 25 |
| Refractory Cell - On Bread and Water | — | — | 19 | 29 | 45 | 1 | — | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | 103 | — | 4 | 13 | 11 | — | — | 28 | 131 |
| On Bread and Water Diet | — | — | 248 | 87 | 25 | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 362 | — | 77 | 34 | 11 | — | — | 122 | 484 |
| Deprived of One Meal | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 121 | 121 | — | — | — | — | 33 | — | 33 | 154 |
| Admonished | — | 317 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 317 | — | — | — | — | — | 58 | 58 | 375 |
| Total | 3 | 317 | 288 | 135 | 89 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 121 | 976 | — | 85 | 49 | 24 | 33 | 58 | 249 | 1,225 |

## Return of Punishments of Female Convicts in Millbank Prison for the Year 1855.

| Nature of Punishments. | Adults. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Juveniles. | | | | | | | | General Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Days. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Days. | | | | | | | | |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 10 | 14 | 21 | 24 | 28 | One Meal. | Admonished. | Deprived of Porter. | Total. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 10 | Admonished. | Total. | |
| Handcuffs (Ruffles) | 9 | — | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 13 | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 2 | 15 |
| Strait Waistcoat | 5 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 8 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 11 |
| Dark Cells — Full Rations | 4 | 6 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 10 | 1 | 6 | — | — | — | — | — | 7 | 17 |
| Dark Cells — Bread and Water | 5 | 6 | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 16 | 1 | — | 5 | 1 | 1 | — | — | 8 | 24 |
| Refractory Cells — Full Rations | 3 | 1 | 7 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 11 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 11 |
| Refractory Cells — Bread and Water | 7 | 10 | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 21 | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | 3 | 24 |
| On Bread and Water Diet | 41 | 12 | 6 | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 63 | — | — | | — | — | — | — | — | 63 |
| Deprived of One Meal | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 37 | — | — | 37 | 5 | 7 | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 13 | 50 |
| Admonished | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 69 | — | 69 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 | 71 |
| Deprived of Porter | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| Total | 74 | 38 | 26 | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 37 | 69 | 2 | 250 | 11 | 13 | 9 | 1 | 2 | — | 2 | 38 | 288 |

## MALE PRISONERS.

Governor's Report.

RETURN showing the Number of PRISONERS reported, and those not reported, from 1st January to 31st December 1855.

Prisoners in Millbank Prison on the 1st January 1855 - 697

| | | | Reports. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 112 | of these Prisoners were reported | once - - | 112 |
| 48 | „ „ | twice - - | 96 |
| 32 | „ „ | thrice - - | 96 |
| 22 | „ „ | four times - | 88 |
| 18 | „ „ | five times - | 90 |
| 10 | „ „ | six times - | 60 |
| 5 | „ „ | seven times - | 35 |
| 4 | „ „ | eight times - | 32 |
| 2 | „ „ | nine times - | 18 |
| 1 | „ „ | ten times - | 10 |
| 2 | „ „ | twelve times | 24 |
| 256 | Total | - - - - | 661 |

Deduct 33 not punished.

223 reported ; 474 not reported.

Prisoners received into Millbank from 1st January to 31st December 1855 - - - - - - - 1,761

| | | | Reports. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 170 | of these Prisoners were reported | once - - | 170 |
| 59 | „ „ | twice - - | 118 |
| 28 | „ „ | thrice - - | 84 |
| 18 | „ „ | four times - | 72 |
| 8 | „ „ | five times - | 40 |
| 12 | „ „ | six times - | 72 |
| 6 | „ „ | seven times - | 42 |
| 2 | „ „ | eight times - | 16 |
| 1 | „ „ | nine times - | 9 |
| 1 | „ „ | ten times - | 10 |
| 1 | „ „ | twelve times | 12 |
| 1 | „ „ | fourteen times | 14 |
| 1 | „ „ | seventeen times | 17 |
| 308 | Total | - - - | 676 |

Deduct 45 not punished.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 263 reported | Reports | - - | 1,337 |
| 1,498 not reported. | | | 2,458 |

Total 486 prisoners reported ; 1,972 not reported.

## FEMALE PRISONERS.

RETURN showing the Number of PRISONERS reported, and those not reported, from 1st January to 31st December 1855. Governor's Report.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| In the Prison 1st January 1855 - - - - - - | | | | None. |
| Received during the Year - - - - - - - | | | | 263 |
| 44 | of these Prisoners were reported | once | - - | 44 |
| 18 | ,, ,, | twice | - - | 36 |
| 9 | ,, ,, | thrice | - - | 27 |
| 6 | ,, ,, | four times | - | 24 |
| 5 | ,, ,, | five times | - | 25 |
| 3 | ,, ,, | six times | - | 18 |
| 1 | ,, ,, | seven times | - | 7 |
| 3 | ,, ,, | eight times | - | 24 |
| 1 | ,, ,, | ten times | - | 10 |
| 1 | ,, ,, | eleven times | - | 11 |
| 2 | ,, ,, | twelve times | | 24 |
| 1 | ,, ,, | thirteen times | | 13 |
| 3 | ,, ,, | fourteen times | | 42 |
| 1 | ,, ,, | fifteen times | | 15 |
| 98 | | | | 320 |
| Deduct 2 | reported, not punished. | | | |
| 96 | total punished; 167 not punished. | | | |

RETURN showing the AGE, SENTENCE, STATE of EDUCATION, and RELIGIOUS PERSUASION of Male and Female CONVICTS received into Millbank Prison in 1855.

| | Received in 1855. | | AGES. | | | | | | SENTENCES. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Adults. | | | Juveniles. | | | Adults. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Juveniles. | | | | | | | | | |
| | 17 years and upwards. | Under 17 years. | 17 years and under 21. | 21 years and under 30. | 30 years and upwards. | Under 12 years. | 12 and under 14 years. | 14 and under 17 years. | 2 years. | 4 years. | 5 years. | 6 years. | 7 years. | 8 years. | 10 years. | 12 years. | 14 years. | 15 years. | 18 years. | 20 years. | 21 years. | 25 years. | Life. | 4 years. | 5 years. | 6 years. | 7 years. | 8 years. | 10 years. | 14 years. | 15 years. | 21 years. |
| Males - | 1,568 | 193 | 414 | 625 | 529 | 6 | 13 | 174 | 1 | 871 | 46 | 222 | 39 | 45 | 47 | 3 | 84 | 119 | 1 | 22 | 9 | 1 | 58 | 159 | 2 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 1 |
| Females - | 244 | 19 | 73 | 96 | 75 | – | 3 | 16 | – | 203 | 3 | 16 | 2 | 1 | 3 | – | 6 | 5 | – | 2 | – | – | 3 | 13 | 2 | 2 | – | – | – | 2 | – | – |
| Total | 1,812 | 212 | 487 | 721 | 604 | 6 | 16 | 190 | 1 | 1,074 | 49 | 238 | 41 | 46 | 50 | 3 | 90 | 124 | 1 | 24 | 9 | 1 | 61 | 172 | 4 | 14 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 7 | 1 |

| | STATE OF EDUCATION. | | | | | | | | RELIGION. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Adults. | | | | Juveniles. | | | | Adults and Juveniles. | | | |
| | Neither read nor write. | Can read only. | Both imperfectly. | Both well. | Neither read nor write. | Can read only. | Both imperfectly. | Both well. | Church of England. | of | Dissenters and others. | Jews. |
| Males - | 286 | 233 | 866 | 183 | 49 | 37 | 98 | 9 | 1,225 | 287 | 238 | 11 |
| Females - | 76 | 93 | 60 | 15 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 153 | 87 | 23 | — |
| Total - | 362 | 326 | 926 | 198 | 54 | 45 | 102 | 11 | 1,378 | 374 | 261 | 11 |

RETURN of CORPORAL PUNISHMENTS ordered and inflicted in the Millbank Prison in the Year 1855.

| Register No. | Name. | Age. | When ordered. | Number of Lashes ordered. | Number of Lashes or Strokes inflicted. | How inflicted. | When inflicted. | Offence. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 26 | D. O'S. - - | 18 | 30 Jan. | 20 | 20 | Birch - | 31 Jan. | Using threatening language to his officer, saying he would do for him. Further, for uttering disgusting language, swearing, and refusing to desist. Further reported for insubordination and idleness; for disobedience of orders; insolence to the officer, threatening to report him, and saying, "It will take more than one big-headed fellow like you to take me out of the room." Further reported for throwing water about, and disobedience of orders. Also further reported for breaking a panel in his cell-door. |
| 27,313 | T. D. - - | 18 | 20 Feb. | 20 | 20 | Birch - | 21 Feb. | Placing his shirt and vest over his clothes, and setting them on fire; also for declaring that, if kept in separate confinement, he would destroy the prison property until he gained his end. |
| 1,331 | J. M'C. - | 18 | 18 Dec. | 24 | 24 | Cat - | 19 Dec. | Refusing to work; insolence to the Deputy Governor when he ordered him to work; setting fire to the "coir" given him to pick; burning his cell-door, table, and tailoring board, thereby endangering the safety of the prison, and his own life. Also for insubordination and disobedience of orders; also for breaking a pane of glass, knocking and whistling in his cell after being repeatedly ordered to cease. Further, for breaking more glass, and for saying he would break all, and for burning his signal-stick; also for shouting and insubordinate language, and for disturbing the prison quietude. Further reported for refusing to go to exercise; refusing to attend the Catholic Service, and for disturbing the quietude of the ward; also for refusing to wash himself, and for destroying prison property given to him for his use. |

Governor's Report.

STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE of MILLBANK PRISON for the Year ended 31st March 1856.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Salaries of principal officers and clerks | 4,190 | 18 | 5 |
| Wages of subordinate officers and servants | 6,641 | 19 | 4 |
| Salaries and wages of manufacturing or labour department | 2,647 | 16 | 2 |
| Rations for officers and allowances in lieu thereof | 1,737 | 3 | 1 |
| Uniforms for officers and servants | 721 | 4 | 7 |
| Victualling prisoners | 9,947 | 12 | 5 |
| Clothing, &c. for prisoners | 2,680 | 0 | 5 |
| Bedding for prisoners | 626 | 5 | 11 |
| Medicines, surgical instruments, &c. | 252 | 6 | 0 |
| Medical comforts (extras for the sick) | 395 | 5 | 9 |
| Clothing and travelling expenses of prisoners on their liberation | 238 | 12 | 11 |
| Gratuities to convicts | 10 | 6 | 9 |
| Furniture and fittings | 547 | 13 | 8 |
| Kitchen utensils, crockery, cutlery, &c. | 271 | 9 | 0 |
| Fuel and light for general purposes | 3,112 | 4 | 7 |
| Buildings, hulks, and ordinary repairs | 1,950 | 6 | 10 |
| Soap, scouring and cleaning articles | 527 | 7 | 4 |
| Brushes, brooms, and mops | 118 | 17 | 1 |
| Funeral expenses, inquests, &c. | 18 | 9 | 0 |
| Various small disbursements | 410 | 3 | 5 |
| Rent, rates, and taxes | 262 | 12 | 0 |
| Total | 37,308 | 14 | 8 |
| Deduct—Amount of sundry receipts, and value of productive labour | 5,446 | 7 | 4 |
| Net expenditure | 31,862 | 7 | 4 |

## II.

## CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN, *Millbank Prison, January* 9, 1856.

Chaplain's Report.

THE Report which I now beg leave to submit will be found, with few exceptions, to resemble in its main features that of the the preceding year.

The daily morning services in the chapel have been conducted as formerly; the greater number of the prisoners attending five times in the week, exclusive of Sunday. In one pentagon, however, (4,) this attendance has been limited to four times in the week, in order to meet the school arrangements in that part of the prison.

Prisoners employed in the bakery, not having leisure to attend these week-day services, have had the benefit of two full services on Sundays.

Prisoners employed in the kitchens have attended alternate daily services, and one of those on Sunday.

Prisoners employed in the garden have attended the daily and Sunday services with the pentagon in which they were located.

The artisans have attended Divine service twice on week-days, and with their pentagon on Sundays.

Prisoners of the penal class have attended Divine service constantly on week-days, and with their pentagon on Sundays.

The general order book shows that the number of times in which the male prisoners, under the ministry of the Chaplains, have had the benefit of two full Sunday services, exceeds that of their being restricted to a single service in the ratio of 41:31.

During the five weeks in which the chapel continued in a state of alteration and repair, the prisoners had a morning service on alternate days in the general ward and schoolrooms, and also one short service on Sundays in the same rooms; the religious instructor and one of the schoolmasters assisting the chaplains in these ministrations, demanded by existing circumstances.

The religious instructor has been daily employed in Scripture reading with the prisoners from cell to cell. Mr. Irwin (schoolmaster), who has more than once held the appointment of religious instructor on board a convict ship, has been similarly engaged whenever the school arrangements allowed such transfer of his labours.

Under these large opportunities of spiritual instruction, both of a separate and collective character, if results were to be measured by the agency employed, one might be disposed to look for a larger manifestation of spiritual feeling than heretofore. Such, however, does not appear to have been the case, the number of communicants having proportionally diminished; for although frequently this ordinance is no sufficient proof of religion, the disesteem or neglect of it is one of the strongest indications of its absence.

Chaplain's Report.

The communion has been administered four times in the year, the candidates having been, as usual, visited separately with a view to their suitable preparation.

The infirmary ministrations have been daily performed by the assistant chaplain in the manner specified in former reports.

The prisoners have habitually received instruction from the schoolmasters, as in the previous year, one morning and one afternoon in the week. Such prisoners as from the nature of their employment were hindered from attending school at those times, have been instructed regularly on two evenings. The prisoners have generally shown a desire to improve, and their behaviour in school in correspondence with such desire, has been, with few exceptions, attentive and orderly.

The chaplain and assistant chaplain have, in turn, visited the schools daily, and the register of progress made by the prisoners under their respective instruction has been regularly kept, as before, by the schoolmasters.

In concluding this Report, I would beg leave to reiterate an opinion on two points before expressed:—

1. The expediency of releasing the chaplain from the share hitherto assigned him in awarding the prisoners' badges.

2. The mischievous effect, in a moral and religious view, of association in the large rooms and general ward; and the desirableness of prisoners being transferred, on the expiration of the appointed term of separate confinement, to open-air labour on public works.

## Female Prison.

The prison having been reopened for the reception of female convicts early in the spring, a suitable agency for their religious and secular instruction was provided for, in the engagement of two schoolmistresses and a lady Scripture-reader. Class instruction, which was formerly carried on by the schoolmistresses, now giving place to separate or cellular instruction. The shoolmistresses speak of the encouragement which in the great plurality of cases they have found in the discharge of their duties, whilst the Scripture-reader mentions the "attention and gratitude" with which her instructions have been generally regarded.

The female prisoners have attended a daily morning service in the chapel of the same character as that afforded to the male prisoners, and a full evening service on Sundays. The Scripture-reader has, in addition to her daily visits to the prisoners in their cells, been engaged on Sunday afternoon in reading in the penal and another ward in rotation, besides affording suitable ministrations in the infirmary on that day, the duty of visitation on week days having been regularly discharged by the assistant chaplain, as formerly.

Since the reception of the female prisoners, the Holy Communion has been administered to them on three occasions; the candidates, as in the case of the male prisoners, being severally visited by the chaplain or assistant chaplain preparatory to their admission.

In the month of August some prisoners, whose habitual behaviour at Brixton had been disorderly and bad, or who had committed some

act of violence, and on account of such misconduct were degraded to the "penal class," so called, were received, in order to be subjected to a particular discipline, and accordingly placed in a ward apart from the rest of the prisoners. Few of these women have shown any signs of amendment, and the language of some has occasionally been revolting in the extreme, evincing an utter recklessness of temper, and deadness to all feminine decency; whilst of the male prisoners belonging to the "penal class," it may reasonably be hoped that the greater number will, in due time, reinstate themselves in the "probationary class" by orderly prison conduct, (howbeit it would be too much to look for genuine reformation but in cases "few and far between,") such mere superficial amendment amongst the female prisoners of the corresponding class must, I apprehend, be regarded as exceptional. This is a gloomy picture, but it is unhappily too true; would it were otherwise. Chaplain's Report.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your very obedient, faithful servant,

JOHN PENNY, *Chaplain.*

*To the Chairman and Directors of*
*Convict Prisons.*

## III.

## MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Medical Superintendent's Report.

GENTLEMEN, *Millbank Prison, January* 4, 1856.

THE health of Millbank prison during the past year, notwithstanding a brief epidemic of cholera, has been unusually good; and the mortality has been almost unprecedentedly small. Four men and one woman died of cholera; but, exclusive of these, there were only six deaths, all amongst the male convicts. No prisoners were pardoned on medical grounds; but twenty were removed to the Invalid hulk at Gosport on account of diseases of fatal tendency.

The more prompt removal of invalid prisoners, especially of those received in a diseased state from other prisons, to the Invalid hulk, has undoubtedly been a principal cause of the smaller mortality. For while, in former years, there have always been several deaths from pulmonary consumption, no prisoner died from that disease in Millbank prison during the past year, but a large proportion of the cases of fatal disease sent to the Invalid hulk were of that nature.

There are, however, other facts which show that the health of the prison has really improved. During the preceding twelve years there had been on the average nearly seven deaths annually from fever, dysentery, and erysipelas; during the past year there were only two deaths from those diseases; namely, one from erysipelas and one from fever.

The number of sick under treatment in the infirmary has likewise been less than in any year since 1846; and the number of new cases of trifling sickness coming daily under treatment in the wards of the prison less than in any former years.

| Years. | Deaths* per 1,000 Prisoners. | Pardons and Removals per 1,000 Prisoners. | Average Number of Infirmary Sick per 1,000 Prisoners. | Daily new Cases of casual Sick per 1,000 Prisoners. | Weekly casual Cases of Diarrhœa per 1,000 Prisoners. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1844 | 18·74 | 28·68 | 40·1 | 16·5 | 40·1 |
| 1845 | 15·13 | 22·20 | 35·14 | 15·66 | 30·0 |
| 1846 | 13·02 | 17·03 | 49·92 | 17·08 | 31·3 |
| 1847 | 28·64 | 18·23 | 67·30 | 20·64 | 40·5 |
| 1848 | 48·06 | 10·19 | 105·2 | 18·67 | 22·5 |
| 1849 | 50·31 | 46·50 | 98·96 | 17·21 | 37·6 |
| 1850 | 23·39 | 24·26 | 56·92 | 23·33 | 54·7 |
| 1851 | 18·31 | 13·74 | 82·74 | 26·37 | 36·1 |
| 1852 | 30·76 | 45·72 | 83·6 | 22·2 | 45·0 |
| 1853 | 21·19 | 25·02 | 97·44 | 20· | 39·7 |
| 1854 | 31·91 | 21·27 | 106·56 | 13·29 | 29·5 |
| 1855 | 6·20 | 20·67 | 50·04 | 12·33 | 22·6 |

* Exclusive of deaths from cholera.

Medical Superintendent's Report

One of the special tests of the health of Millbank prison is the degree of prevalence of diarrhœa, and there have been fewer complaints on account of this disease than in former years, even though the large number due to the epidemic outbreak in October, amounting to one third of the whole number, is included.

This improvement in the health of the establishment began towards the close of the year 1854, and was noticed in my last annual report. It followed quickly upon the substitution of the artesian well water for the Thames water with which the prisoners were previously supplied; and it is most probably in great part due to the greater purity of the water at present in use.

It may be hoped, therefore, that this improved health of the establishment will, at all events to some extent, be permanent. But it is not to be expected that the convicts in Millbank prison will henceforth suffer as little from diarrhœa, dysentery, fever, and erysipelas as the convicts in prisons differently situated. During the past year, indeed, all those disorders have been prevalent though in a diminished degree. The occurrence of cholera too in the autumn with such severity as to cause five deaths, while its existence in London generally was scarcely noticed, shows that in future epidemics of that disease the purity of the water drunk by the prisoners will afford them no absolute immunity from its ravages. The cause of cholera, as well as the cause of diarrhœa, dysentery, fever, and erysipelas is, it is clear, conveyed through some other medium than the water; and impure water probably renders the ravages of these diseases more intense merely by producing in a large number of persons a greater susceptibility of such disorders.

The account of mental diseases amongst the prisoners during the past year is a favourable one. Six men were removed to Bethlem; and two other men who were insane for a short period, recovered in the prison. Three of those removed were insane in 1854 (one of them received insane), and they were included in last year's return. Of the other three, M. I. was insane when he was received; another, T. H., was believed to be an impostor, but, on account of his extraordinary conduct, it was deemed right to submit his case to the judgment of a physician practising in the department of lunacy, who gave a certificate of his insanity, and he was removed to Bethlem hospital; but he exhibited no symptom of insanity in that establishment, and has been returned to the prison. The third, J. S., was suddenly attacked with mania three months after his reception, without any apparent cause.

The two men who became insane in the prison but recovered under treatment there, were both of very weak intellect when they were received; one of them, J. H., while recovering from cholera, was seized with epilepsy, from which he had suffered previously, and was left by the epileptic attack in a state of dementia which continued about seven weeks. The other, F. B., was attacked with epilepsy, according to his statement for the first time in his life, on the day of his reception from Perth, where he had been ten months in separate confinement, and five days afterwards he was seized with acute

Medical Superintendent's Report.

mania; he recovered in little more than a fortnight. The cases of J. S. and F. B. are therefore the only ones occurring during the past year that can with any probability be referred to the influence of imprisonment.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM BALY, M.D.,

*Medical Superintendent.*

*The Chairman & Directors of*

*Convict Prisons.*

## Table I.—General Medical Statistics for the Year 1855.

| Class of Prisoners. | Received during the Year. | Daily Average Number. | Deaths. | Pardons on Medical Grounds. | Removals for fatal Diseases. | Deaths per 1,000 Prisoners. | Pardons and Removals per 1,000 Prisoners. | Deaths, Pardons, and Removals per 1,000. Prisoners. | Insane Prisoners. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | Removed to an Asylum. | Not Removed. |
| Male Convicts - - - | „ | 824·5397 | 10* | „ | 20 | 12·12† | 24·26 | 36·38 | 6 | 2 |
| Female Convicts - - | „ | 143·1698 | 1‡ | „ | „ | 6·98 | „ | 6·98 | „ | „ |
| All Convicts - - - | „ | 967·7095 | 11 | „ | 20 | 11·36§ | 20·67 | 32·03 | 6 | 2 |

* Including 4 deaths from cholera.
† Exclusive of 4 deaths by cholera, the proportion is only 7·28 per 1,000 prisoners.
‡ Caused by cholera.
§ Exclusive of 5 deaths from cholera, the proportion is only 6·20, „ „

TABLE II.—DEATHS in the Year 1855.

| Initials. | Age when received. | Cause of Death. | Date of Death. | When the first Symptoms appeared. | Date of Reception. | Whence received. | State of Health on Reception. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E. W. | 49 | Disease of liver | 28 January | During October, while at Dorchester. | 15 Dec. 1854 | Dorchester | Affected with diseased liver. |
| J. R. | 17 | Erysipelas | 26 March | 15 March | 17 Jan. 1855 | Bristol | Had scrofulous glands. |
| T. M. | 18 | Bronchitis | 3 April | 14 January | 8 „ „ | Stafford | Good, but subject to bronchitis. |
| W. S. | 68 | Pneumonia | 17 April | 23 March | 9 March „ | Maidstone | |
| J. J. | 34 | Epidemic cholera | 18 October | 16 October | 18 April „ | Manchester | Good. |
| T. R. | 63 | Ditto | 19 October | Cholera 18 October. Diarrhœa some days previously. | 31 August „ | Reading | Feeble from age. |
| H. E. | 64 | Ditto | 20 October | Cholera 19 October. Diarrhœa 17 „ | 7 Sept. „ | Stafford | Ditto. |
| W. U. | 30 | Ditto | 29 October | Cholera 18 October. Diarrhœa 17 „ | 17 Sept. „ | Springfield | Good. |
| J. F. | 19 | Typhoid fever | 25 Nov. | 9 November | 18 April „ | Dorchester | Good. |
| J. B. | 30 | Intussusception of bowels | 7 Dec. | 29 November | 24 Nov. „ | Perth | Very feeble, with abscess on hip. |
| E. Y. | 39 | Epidemic cholera | 11 Nov. | Cholera 21 October. Diarrhœa 17 October; relapsed 7 Nov. | 27 February „ | Salford | Feeble. |

TABLE III.—Pardoned on Medical Grounds in the Year 1855.

None.

TABLE IV.—GENERAL SUMMARY of INFIRMARY SICK during the Year 1855.

| Class of Prisoners. | Daily Average Number of Prisoners. | Number of Sick admitted into the Infirmary. | Daily Average Number of Infirmary Sick. | Daily Average Number of Sick per 1,000 Prisoners. | Greatest Number of Sick at any one time. 30th Oct. | Greatest Number of Prisoners at any one time. 20th June. | Average Number of Days of Infirmary for each Sick Prisoner. | Number of Days of Infirmary for each Prisoner, of the Average Daily Number. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Males - - - | 824 | 735 | 44·24 | 53·69 | 93 | 993 | 22 | 19 |
| Females - - - | 143 | 68 | 4·15 | 28·32 | 15 | 182 | 22 | 10 |
| All Prisoners - - | 967 | 823 | 48·39 | 50·04 | 108 | 1,175 | 22 | 18 |

TABLE V.—CASUAL SICK in the Year 1855.

| Class of Prisoners. | Daily Average Number of Prisoners. | Aggregate Number of Cases. | | | Daily Average Number of Cases. | | | Daily Average Number of Cases per 1,000 Prisoners. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | New Cases. | Old Cases. | All Cases. | New Cases. | Old Cases. | All Cases. | New Cases. | Old Cases. | All Cases. |
| Males - - - | 824·5397 | 3,534 | 3,620 | 7,154 | 9·68 | 9·92 | 19·60 | 11·74 | 12·03 | 23·77 |
| Females - - - | 143·1698 | 822 | 618 | 1,440 | 2·25 | 1·69 | 3·94 | 15·71 | 11·80 | 27·51 |
| All Prisoners - - | 967·7095 | 4,356 | 4,238 | 8,594 | 11·93 | 11·61 | 23·54 | 12·33 | 11·99 | 24·32 |

## Table VI.—Insane Prisoners in the Year 1855.

| Initials. | Age when received. | Date of reception. | State of mind when received. | Whether insane previously. | Character of present attack. | When the first Symptoms appeared. | Whence received. | Date of Removal or Recovery. | Whither removed, or present state. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R. E. | 30 | 24 July 1854 | Insane | Not known | Sullen and dangerous | On reception | Dorchester | 11 January | Bethlem hospit. |
| F. H. C. | 18 | 3 Aug. „ | Sane | „ „ | General insanity, mania, followed by incoherence. | 2 September | Bath | „ „ | „ „ |
| W. H. | 34 | 27 July „ | Sane | „ „ | Delusions and restlessness | October | Ipswic | 13 January | „ „ |
| M. T. | 30 | 8 Jan. 1855 | Insane | „ „ | Taciturn, sullen, and dangerous | On reception | Hertford | 7 April | „ „ |
| J. S. | 24 | 6 Feb. „ | Sane | „ „ | Acute mania | 3 May | Derby | 24 May | „ „ |
| T. H. | 25 | 11 May „ | Feigning insanity. | Had been in Bethlem before but discharged as an impostor. | Incoherency ? | On reception | Newgate | 6 Sep. | „ „ |
| J. H. | 43 | 27 Sept. „ | Imbecile | Not known | Temporary dementia after an epiliptic fit. | 7 November | Kirkdale | 31 Dec. | "Stirling Castle" invalid hulk, being still imbecile. |
| F. B. | 17 | 29 Nov. „ | Of dull intellect. | Not | Acute mania | 4 Dec., five days after a first epileptic fit on the day of his reception. | Perth | 16 Dec. | Recovered. Still dull of intellect. |

TABLE VII.—PRINCIPAL COMPLAINTS constituting the NEW CASES amongst the CASUAL SICK during the Year 1855.

| — | Total number of Cases during the year amongst the | | | Number of Cases during the year per 1,000 Prisoners. | | | Average weekly numbers of Cases per 1,000 Prisoners. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Male Convicts. | Female Convicts. | All Convicts. | Male Convicts. | Female Convicts. | All Convicts. | Male Convicts. | Female Convicts. | All Convicts. |
| Diarrhœa - - - | 906 | 232 | 1,138 | 1,098 | 1,620 | 1,176 | 21·1 | 31·1 | 22·6 |
| Dyspepsia - - - | 138 | 88 | 226 | 167 | 614 | 233 | 3·2 | 11·8 | 4·5 |
| Coughs, colds, and rheumatism. | 1,142 | 88 | 1,230 | 1,385 | 614 | 1,271 | 26·6 | 11·8 | 24·4 |
| Constipation - - - | 184 | 163 | 347 | 223 | 1,138 | 358 | 4·3 | 21·8 | 6·8 |
| Other complaints - - | 1,164 | 255 | 1,419 | 1,411 | 1,781 | 1,467 | 27·1 | 34·2 | 28·2 |
| All complaints - - | 3,534 | 826 | 4,360 | 4,286 | 5,769 | 4,505 | 82·4 | 110·9 | 86·6 |

# REPORT

OF THE

# DIRECTORS OF CONVICT PRISONS

ON THE

## DISCIPLINE AND MANAGEMENT

OF

# PORTLAND PRISON.

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# PORTLAND PRISON.

## REPORT,

For the year 1855, of the Directors of Convict Prisons, made as regards Portland Prison, in pursuance of the Act 5 Geo. IV. cap. 84. and Act 13 & 14 Vict. cap. 39.;—specifying the State of the Buildings; the Behaviour and Conduct of the Officers of the Prison, and of the Convicts; the Amount of the Earnings of the Convicts, and the Expense of the Prison: and such other Matters relating to the Discipline and Management thereof as they shall deem expedient, or the Secretary of State shall direct.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.*

To the Right Honourable Sir GEORGE GREY, G.C.B.,
*Secretary of State for the Home Department.*

Sir, *45, Parliament Street,* 1856.

We have the honour to submit our annual Report on Portland Convict Prison for the year 1855.

### *Condition of the Buildings.*

Condition of the buildings.

With the exception of a part of some of the houses occupied by the superior officers, in which the woodwork has become decayed, the prison buildings generally are in good order and repair. An additional wing is in progress of construction at the Infirmary, having been rendered necessary by the large increase in the number of convicts confined in this prison beyond what was originally intended. When completed, it will also afford better accommodation for sick officers, and for bathing, cooking, &c., for the sick prisoners.

### *Conduct of Officers.*

Conduct of officers.

The very important duties of the superior officers of this extensive prison establishment continue to be conducted with much credit to them, and advantage to the public service.

Capt. Clay, the Governor, and the Chaplain and Assistant-Chaplain, Rev. Mr. Holderness and Rev. Mr. Nowers, have had in their respective departments to contend with some serious disadvantages during this year, arising from the state of discontent existing in the minds of the prisoners under sentence of penal servitude, who complained that their sentence was being carried out in a manner different from other sentences, and from what they had been led to expect at the time of their conviction. Notwithstanding these difficulties, however, the efforts of the Governor, and of the Chaplains, have been judiciously directed, and also well aided by their immediate assistants in their several departments. The order and discipline of the prison have been satisfactorily maintained, and the other objects of their respective duties fairly advanced.

The conduct of the subordinate officers has also been very satisfactory, and the Governor has reported their firmness and energy under the circumstances above alluded to as having been most praiseworthy.

Dr. Houghton, the principal medical officer, and his assistant, Mr. Harris, have assiduously and successfully attended to their important, and, frequently, arduous duties.

### *General Treatment of the Prisoners.*

General treatment of the prisoners.

The treatment of the prisoners has been in accordance with the rules, and they have had every allowable encouragement to good conduct and industry, consistently with the requirements of prison discipline. In point of diet, clothing, labour, time for rest, and opportunity for religious and moral improvement and school instruction, there has been no change from previous years, and they have had due opportunity of individually submitting any complaints they may have had to make.

### *Health.*

Health.

The general health of the prisoners has been satisfactory throughout the year. Only 7 deaths have occurred on an average total number of 1,483 in the prison, and of these one was caused by an accident in the quarries. These accidents have been necessarily numerous from the nature of the work, but not more so than might reasonably be expected. Details as to diseases, deaths, &c., are given in the Medical Officer's annexed Report.

### *Religious and Moral Condition, and School Instruction, &c.*

Religious and moral condition, and school instruction, &c.

The Chaplain's Report speaks favourably of the general deportment of the prisoners when attending Divine service, and

gives hopes that, in many instances, the religious impression made is not merely a transient one. He also considers that "there is no cause for desponding when contemplating the moral aspect of the prisoners."

The course of instruction in the schools has been the same as minutely described in his previous annual Report.

*Number and Disposal of Prisoners.*

Number and disposal of prisoners.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Remaining in confinement 1st January 1855 | 1,512 | |
| Received during the year - - - | 1,260 | |
| | | 2,772 |
| Removed to Western Australia - - | 267 | |
| ,, ,, Bermuda - - - | 140 | |
| ,, Gibraltar - - - | 96 | |
| ,, ,, Millbank Prison - - | 11 | |
| ,, ,, Pentonville ,, - - | 19 | |
| ,, ,, Dartmoor ,, - - | 10 | |
| ,, ,, Portsmouth ,, - | 8 | |
| ,, ,, "Stirling Castle" Hulk - - | 7 | |
| ,, ,, Defence - - - | 2 | |
| ,, ,, Dorchester Gaol for trial - | 1 | |
| Free Pardons - - - - | 3 | |
| Conditional Pardons - - - - | 6 | |
| Liberated by orders of licence - - | 684 | |
| Ditto licensed on medical grounds - | 4 | |
| Sentence expired - - - - | 1 | |
| Deaths - - - - | 7 | |
| | 1,266 | |
| Remaining in confinement 31st December 1855 | 1,506 | |
| | | 2,772 |

*Nature of Employment and Value of Labour.*

Nature of employment and value of labour.

The usual description of labour at this station has been carried on during the past year, and has consisted, as before, in,—

1. The labour connected with quarrying and sending stone to the breakwater for the Admiralty departments;

2. The labour (this year much reduced in extent) of excavating and removing earth for the fortifications and other works at the Vern Hill, under the direction of the Ordnance department;

3. Labour necessary for the execution of prison works and repairs.

As shown in the Appendix to the Governor's Report, the total value of the prisoners' labour during the year has been calculated (according to fair measurement, wherever practicable) at 40,120*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.*, which amount is distributed as follows, under the three above heads:—

By an average number of 967 convicts, working for the breakwater, (chiefly in quarrying stone and attendant employments,) there has been executed work to the value of 32,234*l.* 18*s.* 0½*d.*, being at the rate of nearly 33*l.* 6*s.* 8½*d.* per man.

The number of convicts employed for the Ordnance works at the Vern Hill has been 77, the value of their labour being 2,436*l.* 15*s.* 1¼*d.*, and the rate per man 31*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*

In the prison a total average number of 239 men were daily employed; of these 140, as artificers or ordinary labourers, executed work to the value of 3,311*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.*, being at the rate per man of 23*l.* 13*s.* 1¾*d.*, while the remaining 99 men, working indoors as tailors, shoemakers, cooks, bakers, and washers for the prison, performed labour to the value of 2,136*l.* 11*s.* 6½*d.*, or at the rate of 21*l.* 11*s.* 7½*d.* for each.

Omitting this last class of workmen, the out-of-door work of artificers and labourers employed for the breakwater, fortifications, and prison work, 1,184 in number, reaches the value of 37,983*l.* 12*s.* 6¾*d.*, being at the rate of nearly 32*l.* 1*s.* 7½*d.* for every man who was so employed.

The average daily number of prisoners whose labour has not been available, that is, men attending school, sick, under confinement as a punishment, &c., has been 200, or less than one-seventh of the whole number confined in the prison. If this number of non-effective men be taken into the calculation, it follows, that, taking the total value of the labour performed by all hands throughout the year, viz., 40,120*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.* (as above given), and dividing it by the total average number of prisoners, viz., 1,483, the rate per man of the total value of the labour will be 27*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.* nearly.

### *Expenses.*

Expenses.

The expenditure of the prison during the year, exclusive of buildings, is detailed in the Appendix to the Governor's Report, p. 130, and amounted to 57,239*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* This includes a sum of 6,199*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.* expended in the payment of gratuities to convicts who have been discharged on licence, and is reduced by sundry receipts and value of productive labour to 55,842*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*

### *General Conduct and Industry of the Prisoners.*

General conduct and industry of the prisoners.

Although the conduct of the prisoners generally has been good, there has been an increase in the whole number of punishments, and in the offences of a more serious description, as compared with the previous year. This is chiefly attributable to the increasing proportion of the number of prisoners under sentence of penal servitude, among whom, as already mentioned, there

has been much discontent, which at one time broke out into open insubordination among a limited number of the class of prisoners alluded to, rendering necessary the prompt and severe punishment of several of the ringleaders. The example had a salutary effect, and there was no repetition of the insubordination.

The daily average number of offences has been less than two on an average number of 1,483 prisoners, being about one offence daily for every 741 men.

The industry of the body of prisoners has been generally satisfactory, although the amount of labour has in some degree fallen short, in value, of that of the previous year. This appears to have also been in some respects attributable to the feeling of discontent above alluded to, as well as to the very frequent changes that have taken place, by the removal of prisoners, and the consequent constant introduction of new and inexperienced hands, which has of course been unfavourable for the works.

General observations.

## *General Observations.*

The year has not been without cause for considerable anxiety to all concerned in the management of so large a body of prisoners upon public works. The discontent that has been expressed, and otherwise apparent, among the large number of the convicts under sentence of penal servitude, in consequence, as they represented, of their not having held out to them at Portland the same encouragement to good conduct, as the men who had previously been sentenced to transportation, was exceedingly difficult to deal with, and the more so, as in many instances they declared that at the time of their conviction, and subsequently, they had been told that, as in the cases of men under sentence of transportation, they also would have some remission of imprisonment as a reward for good conduct. Much credit is due to the firm and temperate manner in which this serious difficulty was met by the superior, and other officers of the prison, and to the judicious exercise of their moral influence, by which, in a great measure, the evil was checked and overcome By the end of the year a better state of feeling had been attained, some of the prisoners who had received the earliest sentences of penal servitude, having by that time advanced into a period of their sentences, when they began to feel the advantages of the authorized rewards for good conduct, and to look forward to further instalments of the rewards in prison, substituted for the previous system of remitting a portion of the imprisonment. We hope, therefore, that there will be no renewal of insubordination; but it is doubtful if there will exist sufficient encouragement to good conduct and industry.

During the year, 688 men have been discharged on licence, making 1,066 since the commencement of the operation of the Act. The total number of revocations of licence from men discharged on licence from this prison since the same time has been 20, of whom 16 have been received back within the year to which this Report refers. Satisfactory accounts have been received of the conduct, since discharge on licence, of many of the prisoners, and we still have reason to believe that, if the difficulty of finding employment for licensed convicts could be overcome, the proportion would be found to be very small of those who would deliberately relapse into crime.

We have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servants,

J. Jebb, Colonel, R.E.,
*Chairman.*

I. S. Whitty,
*Director of Convict Prisons.*

# APPENDIX.

## I.

## GOVERNOR'S REPORT

GENTLEMEN, *Portland Prison, January* 1856.

Governor's Report.

IN compliance with the rules for my guidance, I have the honour to submit my annual report for the past year, 1855.

Conduct of officers.

The conduct of the officers, as a body, has been very satisfactory, and the firmness and energy shown in their conduct when called forth by the insubordination of a body of prisoners who combined together to strike work in September last, most praiseworthy.

*Number and Disposal of Prisoners :—*

Number and disposal of prisoners.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| The number of prisoners in the prison on the 1st of January 1855, was - - - - - - - | | 1,512 |
| Since received into the prison - - - - - | | 1,260 |
| Total - - - | | 2,772 |
| Deduct the number of prisoners embarked for public works, with tickets-of-leave, removed to other prisons, and discharged with free pardons and licences - - - - - - - - - | | 1,266 |
| Remaining in the prison 31st December 1855 - | | 1,506 |

For the detailed account of prisoners received and removed, see Appendix (A.)

*Discipline, &c.*—The rules under this head have been strictly carried out. The prisoners have been employed in a probationary state upon the public works, preparatory to their being embarked for public works or ticket-of-leave abroad, or discharged with licences in this country.

Strict discipline has been enforced throughout the prison, and obedience to the prison rules insisted upon, and the prisoners have been treated with consideration and humanity, and the rules under this head have been carefully carried out.

Governor's Report.

Description of labour in which the prisoners have been employed.

The labour of the prisoners has been applied under three heads; viz., Breakwater Work, Ordnance Work, and Prison Labour.

*Breakwater Work.*—The works performed under this head have consisted of quarrying blocks of ashlar stones of large dimensions, rubble stones, and stripping and excavating; dressing blocks of ashlar for pier-heads, &c.; laying railways; making Derrick cranes, a travelling gang-tree, stone-trucks; moulding, casting, and fitting machinery, traveller and truck wheels, and other foundry work; making wheelbarrows; pattern making; fitting, turning, and boring; repairing iron and wooden waggons; making and repairing quarry implements; sawing timber; keeping the whole of the quarry plant in repair; and doing such other work as was required.

*Ordnance Work.*—Excavating and quarrying a large ditch, making breastworks and ramparting, levelling old quarry banks, filling up a ditch, building an office, carpenters' shop, and smiths' shop, and levelling parade ground about the barracks.

*Prison Labour.*—Quarrying ashlar and rubble stones for building, building the basement story of new wing of infirmary, building additions to the steward's stores, burning lime, mixing mortar, repairing roads, sawing stone, painting the new cottages, doing the necessary repairs to the prison officers' quarters (cottages), &c., and the general work done by the following trades; viz., whitesmiths, carpenters, sawyers, coopers, tinsmiths, fitters, painters, glaziers, stonemasons, hammock-makers, bookbinders, tailors, shoemakers, gardeners, washing the bedding and linen of the establishment, and the cooking and baking for the prison.

For the particulars of the above-named works I beg to refer you to the Appendix, as follows:—

(B.) General statement of the value and description of labour, and the time employed therein.

(C.) Statement of labour specially for breakwater.

(D.) Ditto for Ordnance Department.

(E.) Abstract of (B.) (C.) and (D.)

(F.) Daily distribution of time.

(G.) Form of weekly return of nature of employment.

It will be seen by reference to the above-named returns, that the average number of convicts in confinement has been 1,483, and they have been employed as follows:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| On the breakwater works daily | | 967 |
| On the Ordnance works | „ | 77 |
| On the prison works | „ | 239 |
| Total employed on works daily | | 1,283 |
| Average number non-effective, as men at school, sick, and under punishment | | 200 |
| Average daily number throughout the year | | 1,483 |

The detailed statement of the value of the labour of the convicts as executed upon the different works, is given in the Appendix, from which the following is an abstract:— Governor's Report.

Value of convict labour.

| | £ | s. | d. | | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| For the breakwater - - - | 32,234 | 18 | 0½ | at per man | 2 | 8¾ |
| For the Ordnance - - - | 2,436 | 15 | 1¼ | „ | 2 | 6¼ |
| For the prison - - - | 5,448 | 10 | 11¼ | „ | 1 | 9½ |
| Total value of work - | £40,120 | 4 | 1 | | | |

Showing a decrease from the value of labour performed last year - £2,711 4 4

This decrease is, I consider, owing to several causes, viz., the inclemency of the weather in the early part of the year being such as to impede the amount of work done very much; the constant change of prisoners consequent on the new system, and the unwillingness observable for a considerable time in most of the prisoners under sentence of penal servitude to perform more work than was just sufficient to save them from punishment for actual idleness.

There have been many accidents—several of a serious nature, and one, I regret to say, which proved fatal; but taking into consideration the nature and extent of the works, the number of prisoners employed, and the inexperience of the body of convicts in works of the kind, the accidents have not been more than might be expected, and I have reason to suppose that proper attention has been paid to the machinery, and every possible care taken to keep the convicts out of danger.

The general state of the buildings, fences, &c., is good, with the exception of the principal officer's quarters, the outside framework of which is becoming rotten. State buildings.

The repairs, from the exposed position of the prison, have been as usual considerable, but of an ordinary nature. Repairs.

Four prisoners have tried to effect their escape during the year, but none succeeded. Escapes.

The general conduct of the body of prisoners has been satisfactory. In September, a bad and insubordinate feeling was displayed by a number of men sentenced to penal servitude; these combined to strike work, assigning as a reason that they were disappointed as to their period of imprisonment, and stating that when tried, and in some instances since trial, they had been led to expect that by good conduct they would get part of their sentence remitted. The conduct on this occasion of the body of convicts was most praiseworthy, as they not only did not in any way join the malcontents, but were much annoyed with them, knowing that acts of insubordination on public works by a body of the prisoners must tend to curtail the privileges of the whole. Prompt measures were at once taken with the whole number of prisoners thus refusing to work, and committing other acts of insubordination. The ringleaders were all corporally punished, and by the timely example made of all concerned by the Visiting Director, order and regularity was at once Conduct of the prisoners.

Governor's Report.

restored. The cases of default have been generally of a minor nature. The number of offences were 702, and the number of offenders 417; 25 of these received corporal punishment for insubordination on the public works and assaulting prison officers; the average daily number of defaults was less than 2, being an average of 0·13 per cent. on the daily average number of prisoners.

Moral condition of the prisoners.

I believe the moral state of the prisoners to be satisfactory, judging from their general tone and bearing. During the year 16 prisoners have been again received into the prison with licences revoked for misconduct while at large.

Industry of the prisoners.

The usual record of the prisoners' industry which has been kept has been generally satisfactory, with the exception before stated, and proves that the gratuity given is a great auxiliary in obtaining the willing industry of the prisoners.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM CLAY,

*Governor.*

*The Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

(A.)—Annual Statement of the Removal of Convicts to and from Portland Prison between 1st January and 31st December 1855.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| On 1st January 1855— | | | |
| The number of Convicts in Portland Prison was | | | 1,512 |
| Received during the year from— | | | |
| Convict Prison - | Millbank | 640 | |
| | Pentonville | 411 | |
| | Parkhurst | 10 | |
| | Portsmouth | 2 | |
| | | | 1,063 |
| „ Hulks - | "Warrior" | 1 | |
| | "Defence" | 1 | |
| | | | 2 |
| „ Ships - | "Scindian" | 1 | |
| | "Adelaide" | 1 | |
| | | | 2 |
| County and Borough Prisons under contract with the Government. | Wakefield | 140 | |
| | Reading - | 17 | |
| | Bedford - | 11 | |
| | Preston - | 9 | |
| | | | 177 |
| Returned with forfeited Licence | | | 16 |
| Total | | | 2,772 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Disposed of by— | | | | | |
| Transfers to Convict Prisons - | Millbank | 11 | (for misconduct) - | 30 | |
| | Pentonville | 19 | | | |
| | Dartmoor* | | | 10 | |
| | Portsmouth | | | 8 | |
| | | | | | 48 |
| Ditto to Convict Hulks | "Stirling Castle"* | (* Invalids 17) | | 7 | |
| | "Defence" | | | 2 | |
| | | | | | 9 |
| Ditto to Dorchester Gaol for trial | | | | | 1 |
| | | To finish probation on Public Works. | Discharged with Ticket-of-Leave. | | |
| Embarked | Per "Stag" for Western Australia | 84 | 1 | 85 | |
| | Per "Scindian" for Gibraltar - | 96 | — | 96 | |
| | Per "Adelaide" for Western Australia | 77 | 25 | 102 | |
| | Per "Castle Eden" for Bermuda - | 140 | — | 140 | |
| | Per "Wm. Hammond" for Australia | 66 | 14 | 80 | |
| | Total - | 463 | 40 | | 503 |
| Discharged by - | Free Pardons - | | | 3 | |
| | Conditional Pardons | | | 6 | |
| | | | | | 9 |
| | Licence - | | | 684 | |
| | License on Medical grounds | | | 4 | |
| | | | | | 688 |
| | Completion of sentence | | | | 1 |
| Deaths - | From accident - | | | 1 | |
| | From natural causes | | | 6 | |
| | | | | | 7 |
| Number remaining on the 31st December 1855 | | | | | 1,506 |
| Total | | | | | 2,772 |

Governor's Report.

(B.)—STATEMENT of the VALUE of the PRISONERS' LABOUR, the average Number of Working Hours in each Quarter, and the Aggregate Number of Days' Work (at 10 Hours each Day) done throughout the Year 1855.

| Description of Work. | Periods. From | Periods. To | No. of Days on which employed. | Average No. of Men employed. | Average No. of Hours Work in each Day. | Total No. of Hours and Days employed. | Value of Labour. Daily Rate. | Value of Labour. Amount. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ADMIRALTY: | 1855. | 1855. | | | H. M. | H. M. | *s. d.* | £ *s. d.* |
| Quarrying, loading, forming roads, excavating, and general work. | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 836 | 7 13 | 464,551 16 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 775 | 8 41 | 518,177 55 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 770½ | 8 29 | 509,839 51 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 775 | 6 58 | 421,135 0 | | |
| | | | | | 10) | 1,913,704 2 | | |
| | | | | | | 191,370 4 | 2 7 | 24,718 13 6¼ |
| Blacksmiths, Fitters, Moulders, Turners, Pattern Makers, &c. - - - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 61½ | 8 20 | 39,462 30 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 60½ | 9 5 | 42,314 42 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 61 | 9 5 | 43,218 30 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 60 | 8 0 | 37,440 0 | | |
| | | | | | 10) | 162,435 42 | | |
| | | | | | | 16,243 5 | 3 4 | 2,707 5 0 |
| Carpenters and Sawyers - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 20 | 8 20 | 12,833 20 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 17 | 9 5 | 11,890 5 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 18 | 9 5 | 12,753 0 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 16 | 8 0 | 9,984 0 | | |
| | | | | | 10) | 47,460 25 | | |
| | | | | | | 4,746 0 | 3 0 | 711 18 0 |
| Stonecutters and working travellers, &c. - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 71 | 7 13 | 39,453 31 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 62½ | 8 41 | 41,788 32 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 56½ | 8 29 | 37,386 3 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 51 | 6 58 | 27,713 24 | | |
| | | | | | 10) | 146,341 30 | | |
| | | | | | | 14,634 1 | 3 6 | 2,560 19 4 |
| Platelayers (Railway) - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 32 | 7 13 | 17,781 52 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 29 | 8 41 | 19,389 53 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 30 | 8 29 | 19,851 0 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 29 | 6 58 | 15,758 36 | | |
| | | | | | 10) | 72,781 21 | | |
| | | | | | | 7,278 1 | 3 0 | 1,091 14 3½ |
| Carried forward - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 31,790 10 1¾ |

Governor's Report.

| Description of Work. | Periods. From | Periods. To | No. of Days on which employed. | Average No. of Men employed. | Average No. of Hours Work in each Day. | Total No. of Hours and Days employed. | Value of Labour. Daily Rate. | Value of Labour. Amount. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | £ s. d. |
| | | | | | | Brought forward - | | 31,790 10 1¾ |
| | 1855. | 1855. | | | H. M. | H. M. | s. d | |
| Riggers of cranes, &c. - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 9 | 8 20 | 5,775 0 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 9 | 9 5 | 6,294 45 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 10 | 9 5 | 7,085 0 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 10 | 8 0 | 6,240 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 25,394 45 | | |
| | | | | | | 2,539 4 | 3 6 | 444 7 10¾ |
| ORDNANCE: | | | | | | | | |
| Quarrying, forming roads, excavating, and general work - | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 95½ | 8 41 | 63,852 53 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 107½ | 8 29 | 71,132 45 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 87 | 6 58 | 47,275 48 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 182,261 26 | | |
| | | | | | | 18,226 1 | 2 6 | 2,278 5 3 |
| Blacksmiths - | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 29 | 3 | 9 5 | 790 15 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 66 | 3 | 9 5 | 1,798 30 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 2½ | 8 0 | 1,560 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 4,148 45 | | |
| | | | | | | 414 8 | 2 8 | 55 6 1½ |
| Carpenters and Sawyers - - | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 29 | 3 | 9 5 | 790 15 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 66 | 3½ | 9 5 | 2,098 15 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 4 | 8 0 | 2,496 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 5,384 30 | | |
| | | | | | | 538 4 | 2 8 | 71 15 8¾ |
| Masons - - - | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 54 | 3 | 8 32 | 1,382 24 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 42 | 3½ | 6 37 | 972 39 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 2,355 3 | | |
| | | | | | | 235 5 | 2 8 | 31 8 0 |
| PRISON: | | | | | | | | |
| Carpenters and Sawyers - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 17 | 8 20 | 10,908 20 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 16 | 9 5 | 11,190 40 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 15 | 9 5 | 10,627 30 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 13 | 8 0 | 8,112 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 40,838 30 | | |
| | | | | | | 4,083 8 | 3 0 | 612 11 4¾ |
| Carried forward - - - - - - - - | | | | | | | | 35,284 4 6½ |

Governor's Report.

| Description of Work. | Periods. From | Periods. To | No. of Days on which employed. | Average No. of Men employed. | Average No. of Hours Work in each Day. | Total No. of Hours and Days employed. | Value of Labour. Daily Rate. | Value of Labour. Amount. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | £ s. d. |
| | | | | | Brought forward | - | | 35,284 4 6½ |
| | 1855. | 1855. | | | H. M. | H. M. | s. d. | |
| Painters - - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 9 | 8 20 | 5,775 0 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 8½ | 9 5 | 5,945 2 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 8 | 9 5 | 5,668 0 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 5 | 8 0 | 3,120 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 20,508 2 | | |
| | | | | | | 2,050 8 | 2 9 | 281 19 8¼ |
| Blacksmiths - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 10 | 8 20 | 6,416 40 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 10 | 9 5 | 6,994 10 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 9 | 9 5 | 6,376 30 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 12 | 8 0 | 7,488 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 27,275 20 | | |
| | | | | | | 2,727 5 | 3 0 | 409 2 6 |
| Gardeners - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 15 | 7 13 | 8,335 15 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 11 | 8 41 | 7,354 47 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 10½ | 8 29 | 6,947 51 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 9 | 6 58 | 4,890 36 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 27,528 29 | | |
| | | | | | | 2,752 8 | 1 8 | 229 8 0 |
| Stonecutters and masons, &c., building steward's store, new wing to Infirmary, addition to steward's clerk's office, foundation, and walls, extending main sewers and other Prison work - | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 48 | 29 | 8 31 | 11,855 12 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 54 | 22 | 8 34 | 10,177 12 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 26 | 6 58 | 14,128 24 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 36,160 48 | | |
| | | | | | | 3,616 0 | 2 8 | 482 2 8 |
| Backing tank at new cottages, repairing road, excavating foundations for officers' quarters, Prison barracks, and main drain of Prison, &c. - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 29 | 7 13 | 16,144 49 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 29 | 27 | 8 57 | 7,007 51 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 24 | 21 | 8 17 | 4,174 48 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 27,297 28 | | |
| | | | | | | 2,729 7 | 2 6 | 341 4 3 |
| Carried forward | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37,028 1 7¾ |

Governor's Report.

| Description of Work. | Periods. From | Periods. To | No. of Days on which employed. | Average No. of Men employed. | Average No. of Hours Work in each Day. | Total No. of Hours and Days employed. | Value of Labour. Daily Rate. | Value of Labour. Amount. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | £ s. d. |
| | | | | | | Brought forward - | | 37,028 1 7¾ |
| | 1855. | 1855. | | | H. M. | H. M. | s. d. | |
| General Prison labour, including men at light work, sawing stone, cleaning Prison, &c. - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 58 | 7 13 | 32,229 38 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 57 | 8 41 | 38,111 9 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 63½ | 8 29 | 42,017 57 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 57 | 6 58 | 30,973 48 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 143,332 32 | | |
| | | | | | | 14,333 2 | 1 4 | 955 10 11 |
| Shoemakers - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 26½ | 8 20 | 17,004 10 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 27 | 9 5 | 18,884 15 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 26½ | 9 5 | 18,775 15 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 27 | 8 0 | 16,848 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 71,511 40 | | |
| | | | | | | 7,151 1 | 1 6 | 536 6 7¾ |
| Tailors - - - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 23 | 8 20 | 14,758 20 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 24 | 9 5 | 16,786 0 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 23½ | 9 5 | 16,649 45 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 27 | 8 0 | 16,848 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 65,042 5 | | |
| | | | | | | 6,504 2 | 1 6 | 487 16 3½ |
| Washers - - - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 23½ | 8 20 | 15,079 10 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 23 | 9 5 | 16,086 35 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 23 | 9 5 | 16,295 30 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 22 | 8 0 | 13,728 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 61,189 15 | | |
| | | | | | | 6,118 9 | 1 6 | 458 18 4 |
| Bakers - - - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 10 | 10 0 | 7,700 0 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 10 | 10 0 | 7,700 0 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 10 | 10 0 | 7,800 0 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 10 | 10 0 | 7,800 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 31,000 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 3,100 0 | 1 6 | 232 10 0 |
| Cooks, 7 days per week - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 90 | 15 | 10 0 | 13,500 0 | | |
| | 1 Apr. | 30 June | 91 | 15 | 10 0 | 13,650 0 | | |
| | 1 July | 29 Sept. | 91 | 15½ | 10 0 | 14,105 0 | | |
| | 30 Sept. | 31 Dec. | 93 | 16 | 10 0 | 14,880 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 56,135 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 5,613 5 | 1 6 | 421 0 3 |
| Carried forward - | | | - | - | - | - - | - | 40,120 4 1 |

Governor's Report.

| Description of Work. | Periods. From | Periods. To | No. of Days on which employed. | Average No. of Men employed. | Average No. of Hours Work in each Day. | Total No. of Hours and Days employed. | Value of Labour. Daily Rate. | Value of Labour. Amount. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | £ s. d. |
| | | | | | Brought forward | - | | 40,120 4 1 |
| | 1855. | 1855. | | | H. M. | H. M. | s. d. | |
| School - - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 127 | 8 20 | 81,491 40 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 130 | 9 5 | 90,924 10 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 130 | 9 5 | 92,105 0 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 124½ | 8 0 | 77,688 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 10)342,208 50 | | |
| | | | | | | 34,220 8 | | |
| Sick - - - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 61 | 8 20 | 39,141 40 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 59½ | 9 5 | 41,615 17 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 61 | 9 5 | 43,218 30 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 51 | 8 0 | 31,824 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 10)155,799 27 | | |
| | | | | | | 15,579 9 | | |
| Punishment - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 9 | 8 20 | 5,775 0 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 9½ | 9 5 | 6,644 27 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 18 | 9 5 | 12,753 0 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 21 | 8 0 | 13,104 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 10) 38,276 27 | | |
| | | | | | | 3,827 6 | | |
| (Wet days), or time lost by bad weather, and medical inspection of new arrivals - - - | 1 Jan. | 31 Mar. | 77 | 117 | 10 0 | 90,090 0 | | |
| | 2 Apr. | 30 June | 77 | 56 | 10 0 | 43,120 0 | | |
| | 2 July | 29 Sept. | 78 | 64½ | 10 0 | 50,310 0 | | |
| | 1 Oct. | 31 Dec. | 78 | 119 | 10 0 | 92,820 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 10)276,340 0 | | |
| | | | | | | 27,634 0 | | |
| | | | | | Total amount of Prisoners' Earnings for the year ending 1855 - | | | 40,120 4 1 |

(C.)—STATEMENT of the VALUE of LABOUR performed for the Works of the BREAKWATER by the Convicts in the Year 1855. Governor's Report.

| Nature of Work. | Quantities and Description of Work. | Price. £ | s. | d. | Amount. £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Quarrying and loading stones; dressing and scabbling ashlar; excavating, &c.; smiths', moulders', and carpenters' work in making quarry tools, machinery, sharpening and repairs of all implements, iron waggons, &c.; making crossings; plate laying; forming and maintaining roads; repairs and fixing machinery; stripping quarries, &c.; contractors' prices (labour only). | 214,523 tons of stone, from 6 tons to 10 cwt. | 0 | 1 | 6 | 16,089 | 4 | 6 |
| | 209,436¾ tons of rubble stone | 0 | 0 | 7 | 6,108 | 11 | 5¼ |
| | 19,627¾ tons of foundation flinty materials | 0 | 1 | 0 | 981 | 7 | 9 |
| | 140½ tons of broken flint, including breaking, for foundations | 0 | 6 | 0 | 42 | 3 | 0 |
| | 5,965 tons of hand-picked rubble for hearting pier (coarse) | 0 | 0 | 9 | 223 | 13 | 9 |
| | 1,315¾ tons of hand-picked rubble for hearting pier (fine and clean) | 0 | 0 | 10 | 54 | 16 | 5½ |
| | 396 tons rubble, specially selected and cut as for block and coarse work | 0 | 1 | 4 | 26 | 8 | 0 |
| | 162½ tons of slaty materials | 0 | 2 | 6 | 20 | 6 | 3 |
| | 6 tons of concrete riddled | 0 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| | 112½ tons of ballast | 0 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 16 | 3 |
| | 1,924½ tons of large flat bedded stones, quarried, loaded, and unloaded | 0 | 2 | 0 | 192 | 9 | 0 |
| | 1,924½ tons of large flat-bedded stones, picked on both bed, and loaded | 0 | 2 | 6 | 240 | 11 | 3 |
| | 21,457¾ tons of ashlar, large blocks of roach and whitbed quarried, loaded, and unloaded | 0 | 3 | 6 | 3,755 | 2 | 1½ |
| | 2,168½ tons of whitbed blocks, quarried, scabbled, and loaded for shipping to Keyham, Portsmouth, and Chatham | 0 | 6 | 0 | 650 | 11 | 0 |
| | 24,595 cube feet of roach ashlar blocks, well scabbled, squared, and loaded | 0 | 0 | 3½ | 358 | 13 | 6½ |
| | 30,627 cube feet of roach mould stones, well scabbled, squared, and loaded | 0 | 0 | 3½ | 446 | 12 | 10½ |
| | 15,660 cube feet of roach ashlar blocks, dressed bed and joints only | 0 | 0 | 4 | 261 | 0 | 0 |
| | 131 cube feet of roach ashlar blocks, drafted round, and axed all over, beds, joints, and face | 0 | 0 | 6½ | 3 | 10 | 11½ |
| | 726 lineal feet of Lewis holes, drilled into blocks of stone | 0 | 0 | 9 | 27 | 4 | 6 |
| | 24,724 cube yards of excavations, loading and tipping into embankments | 0 | 0 | 6 | 618 | 2 | 0 |
| | 633 days work, making a tram road for Messrs. Stewart and Co.'s quarries | 0 | 2 | 7 | 81 | 15 | 3 |
| | 120 days work, platelayers, for ditto | 0 | 3 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 0 |
| | 8,385 days work, levelling ground in frosty weather, and inside boundary wall | 0 | 2 | 7 | 1,083 | 1 | 3 |
| | Carried forward | - | - | - | 31,287 | 2 | 1¾ |

Governor's Report.

Statement of the Value of Labour, &c., *continued*:—

| Nature of Work. | Quantities and Description of Work. | Price. £ | s. | d. | Amount. £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Brought forward - - | - | - | | 31,287 | 2 | 1¾ |
| | 270 statute perches masonary in boundary wall, and foundations complete - - | 0 | 6 | 0 | 81 | 0 | 0 |
| | 450 feet run of round coping to boundary wall - - | 0 | 0 | 8 | 15 | 0 | 0 |
| | 41 tons of iron castings, for machinery and general use, made by prisoners in the foundry (casting only) - | 10 | 0 | 0 | 410 | 0 | 0 |
| | 9 cwt. of brass castings for machinery and general use, made by prisoners in the foundry (casting only) - | 0 | 16 | 0 | 7 | 4 | 0 |
| | 1 travelling gang-tree, machinery, &c. complete, 51 ft. span | - | - | - | 150 | 0 | 0 |
| | 4 heel platforms for cranes - | 0 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| | 6 new Derrick cranes - - | 8 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 0 | 0 |
| | 4 new tipping scoops - - | 4 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2 new stone trucks, complete - | 10 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| | 5 new ballast waggons - - | 6 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 0 | 0 |
| | 98 new wheelbarrows, with wrought iron wheels - - | 0 | 7 | 0 | 34 | 6 | 0 |
| | 7 new box barrows - - | 0 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 0 |
| | 2 new sentinel boxes - - | 0 | 12 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| | 4 new shelter sheds - - | 5 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| | 1 picket house - - - | 4 | 10 | 0 | 4 | 10 | 0 |
| | 2 new closets - - - | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | 1 powder box - - - | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 0 |
| | 7 sets of tackle blocks for rigging - - - - | 2 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| | 12 new iron blocks, 105 lbs. each per lb. - - - - | 0 | 0 | 9 | 47 | 5 | 0 |
| | 5 rack jacks - - - | 3 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 |
| | 42 large trussles for barrow runs - - - - - | 0 | 5 | 0 | 10 | 10 | 0 |
| | 56 small trussles for barrow runs - - - - - | 0 | 3 | 0 | 8 | 8 | 0 |
| | 14 triangles for crane guys - | 0 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 15 | 0 |
| | 2 moulds for ashlar dressing - | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| | 23 masons' mallets - - | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| | 43 masons' squares (oak) - | 0 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 0 |
| | 67 straight-edges - - - | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| | 3 wood levers - - - | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| | 3 ladders - - - - | 0 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| | Total - - | - | | - £ | 32,234 | 17 | 11¾ |

(D.)—Work done for the Ordnance Department.

Governor's Report.

| Nature of Work. | Quantities and Description of Work. | Price. £ | s. | d. | Amount. £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Excavating large ditch, making ramparting, levelling old quarry banks, building an office, carpenters' and smiths' shops, &c. on the Vern Hill, at usual contractors' prices (labour only.) | 18,265½ cube yards of excavations, in foundations, filling up ditch of redoubt, and other excavations - - | 0 | 0 | 6 | 456 | 12 | 9 |
| | 13,686 cube yards of rock, &c. excavated from the large ditch, to form embankment - | 0 | 1 | 7¼ | 1,097 | 14 | 7½ |
| | 7,605 cube yards of earth wheeled from top of bank to fill up part of ditch - - | 0 | 0 | 8 | 253 | 10 | 0 |
| | 447 cube yards of earth wheeled a second time 40 yards - | 0 | 0 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 0 |
| | 2,795 cube yards of excavations, hand-picked to form embankment - - - - - | 0 | 0 | 8 | 93 | 3 | 4 |
| | 1,118 cube yards of sods in ramparting - - - | 0 | 3 | 6 | 195 | 13 | 0 |
| | 119 superficial yards of paving in dining sheds - - - | 0 | 3 | 0 | 17 | 17 | 0 |
| | 74 superficial yards of paving at barracks - - - | 0 | 6 | 0 | 22 | 4 | 0 |
| | 1,125½ days work, making roads, forming parade, and levelling old quarry banks - | 0 | 2 | 6 | 140 | 13 | 9 |
| | 6 sentinel boxes - - - | 0 | 12 | 0 | 3 | 12 | 0 |
| | 3 closets - - - - | 0 | 15 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 0 |
| | 3 tool boxes - - - - | 0 | 12 | 0 | 1 | 16 | 0 |
| | 1 wood office - - - - | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| | 14 perches rubble masonry, magazine - - - - | 0 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 10 | 0 |
| | 251 statute perches masonry in wall, complete - - | 0 | 7 | 6 | 94 | 2 | 6 |
| | Carpenters' work, slating, plastering, painting, and tarring roof, complete - - - | - | - | - | 30 | 8 | 1 |
| | 2 desks for office - - - | 2 | 10 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| | Table, drawing boards, and other fittings for office - | - | - | - | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| | Taking down and removing old shops - - - - - | - | - | - | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| | Total - - | - | | £ | 2,436 | 15 | 0½ |

(E.)—Abstract of Labour of the Convicts in Portland Prison in the Year 1855, and the time occupied therein (the average daily Number of Prisoners being 1,483).

| Trade or Occupation. | Average No. of Men. | Time actually employed. | | Valued at | Amounts. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Number of Hours. | Days of 10 Hours each. | | | |
| | | | Days. Hrs. | s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| Admiralty: | | | | | | |
| Quarrymen, &c. | 789 | 1,913,704 | 191,370 4 | 2 7 | 24,718 13 6¼ | |
| Blacksmiths, fitters, &c. | 61 | 162,435 | 16,243 5 | 3 4 | 2,707 5 0 | |
| Carpenters and sawyers | 18 | 47,460 | 4,746 0 | 3 0 | 711 18 0 | |
| Stone-cutters, &c. | 60 | 146,341 | 14,634 1 | 3 6 | 2,560 19 4 | |
| Plate layers (Railway) | 30 | 72,781 | 7,278 1 | 3 0 | 1,091 14 3½ | |
| Riggers | 9 | 25,394 | 2,539 4 | 3 6 | 444 7 10¾ | |
| | | | | | | 32,234 18 0½ |
| Ordnance: | | | | | | |
| Quarrymen, &c. | 72 | 182,261 | 18,226 1 | 2 6 | 2,278 5 3 | |
| Blacksmiths | 2 | 4,148 | 414 8 | 2 8 | 55 6 1½ | |
| Carpenters and sawyers | 2 | 5,384 | 538 4 | 2 8 | 71 15 8¾ | |
| Masons | 1 | 2,355 | 235 5 | 2 8 | 31 8 0 | |
| | | | | | | 2,436 15 1¼ |
| Prison: | | | | | | |
| Carpenters and sawyers | 15 | 40,838 | 4,083 8 | 3 0 | 612 11 4¾ | |
| Painters | 7 | 20,508 | 2,050 8 | 2 9 | 281 19 8¼ | |
| Blacksmiths | 10 | 27,275 | 2,727 5 | 3 0 | 409 2 6 | |
| Gardeners | 11 | 27,528 | 2,752 8 | 1 8 | 229 8 0 | |
| Stone-cutters and masons, &c. | 19 | 36,160 | 3,616 0 | 2 8 | 482 2 8 | |
| Backing tank, &c. | 19 | 27,297 | 2,729 7 | 2 6 | 341 4 3 | |
| General prison labour, including men at light work, &c. | 59 | 143,332 | 14,333 2 | 1 4 | 955 10 11 | |
| | | | | | | 3,311 19 5 |
| Shoemakers | 27 | 71,511 | 7,151 1 | 1 6 | 536 6 7¾ | |
| Tailors | 24 | 65,042 | 6,504 2 | 1 6 | 487 14 3½ | 37,983 12 6¾ |
| Washers | 23 | 61,189 | 6,118 9 | 1 6 | 458 18 4 | |
| Bakers | 10 | 31,000 | 3,100 0 | 1 6 | 232 10 0 | |
| Cooks | 15 | 56,135 | 5,613 5 | 1 6 | 421 0 3 | |
| Unproductive employment, sick, school, punishment, wet days, &c. | 209 | 812,624 | 81,262 4 | | | 2,136 11 6¼ |
| Total | | 3,982,702 | 399,270 2 | | | 40,120 4 1 |

Average daily number of men throughout the year:—Breakwater works - - - - 967
" " " Ordnance works - - - - 77
" " " Prison works - - - - 239
Non-effective (school 128, sick 58, under punishment 14) - - - - - 200
Total - - - - - 1,483

(F.)—Daily Distribution of Time.

Governor's Report.

| Occupation. | | | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Prisoners rise, wash themselves, and clean cells and wards. | A.M. 5.0 to | A.M. 5.45 = H. M. 0 45 | |
| Breakfasts (officers and prisoners). | 5.45 „ | 6.15 = 0 30 | Breakfasts are served at an early hour to avoid loss of time in taking the prisoners off the works for this meal. |
| Morning prayers (including time for unlocking and moving to and from prayers). | 6.15 „ | 6.40 = 0 25 | Prayers are in the chapel both summer and winter. |
| Labour, including mustering, and going to and from the working ground in the quarries. | 6.40 „ | 11.20 = 4 40 | Or from the earliest dawn to 11.20, when the days are shorter. |
| Dinner (for officers and prisoners), making up hammocks, and repairing clothes. | P.M. 11.20 „ | P.M. 12.20 = 1 0 | The earliness of the breakfast renders it necessary to have an early dinner. |
| Labour, including mustering, and going to and from the working ground in the quarries. | P.M. 12.20 „ | 6.20 = 6 0 | Or from 12.20 to dusk, when the days are shorter. On Saturday afternoon the prisoners are recalled from labour at 4.30. |
| Supper (for officers and prisoners). | 6.20 „ | 6.50 = 0 30 | |
| Evening prayers and lecture (including time for unlocking and moving to and from chapel). | 6.50 „ | 7.25 = 0 35 | |
| Cleaning shoes, shaving, &c. and reading in cells. | 7.25 „ | 8.0 = 0 35 | Each prisoner has half a day's schooling in the week, and during this half day they are also made to bathe, have their hair cut, and the remaining time employed under the Clerk of Work's directions in road mending, and clearing away rubbish, &c. |
| Taking down hammocks - | 8.0 „ | 8.10 = 0 10 | |
| Total from 5 A.M. to 8.10 P.M. - | | 15 10 | |

Abstract of the above.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Meals - - - | 2 0 | |
| Prayers and lecture, including moving to and from. | 1 0 | |
| Out-of-door labour, including mustering, moving to and from. | 10 40 | About one hour each day of this time is consumed in parading and going to and from the working grounds at a distance. |
| In-door occupations - | 1 30 | This includes some time passed in cleaning up halls, wards, cells, and utensils. (See details above.) |
| Total - | 15 10 | |

N.B.—In wet weather the tailors, shoemakers, carpenters, blacksmiths, washers, and all under cover in workshops, continue their work. If the weather is too bad for out-of-door labour the men usually so employed are occupied in whitewashing, scouring, and various necessary internal works, for which there is no opportunity on other days. In weather that is merely showery, or available for work by ordinary labourers, the prisoners are not withdrawn from work, sheds being provided for occasionally sheltering the working parties, and a drying-room by which wet clothing is made ready for wear in a few hours.

Governor's Report.

## (G.)—Return of Employment of Convicts in Portland Prison for the week ending 17th November 1855.

| General Occupation. | Daily Average Number. | | Particulars of Prison Labour. | Daily Average Number. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Admiralty working parties | | 954 | Gardeners | 10 |
| Prison and Ordnance Works (as detailed opposite) | 189 | | Cleaning Prison | 20 |
| Painters | 4 | | Light Work | 11 |
| Carpenters | 14 | | Sawing stone | 27 |
| Blacksmiths | 11 | | | |
| Shoemakers | 27 | | | |
| Tailors | 28 | | | |
| Cooks | 16 | | Building new wing to Infirmary | 25 |
| Bakers | 10 | | | |
| Masons | — | | | |
| Washers | 22 | | Filling in redoubt on Vern | 96 |
| | | 321 | | |
| Sick and unfit for labour and not told off to parties | 52 | | | |
| School | 128 | | | |
| Under punishment | 21 | | | |
| | | 201 | | |
| Total number in the prison | | 1,476 | | |
| Time lost by bad weather: Admiralty work | $9\frac{1}{2}$ | | | |
| Ordnance „ | $0\frac{1}{2}$ | | | |
| Prison „ | — | | | |
| Not told off to parties | 4 | | | |
| | | 14 | | |
| Reducing the daily average to | | 1,462 | Total | 189 |

### Detail of Admiralty Work.

| | |
|---|---|
| Quarrying and loading stone | 516 |
| Stripping rock and forming roads | $16\frac{4}{6}$ |
| Dressing and scabbling ashlar blocks | $57\frac{1}{6}$ |
| Squaring large blocks of roach | 34 |
| Blacksmiths, founders, fitters, &c. | 61 |
| Carpenters and sawyers | 15 |
| Platelayers (railway) | $27\frac{3}{6}$ |
| Attending points | 19 |
| Riggers | $8\frac{5}{6}$ |
| Unloading stone | 16 |
| | 954 |

### Number of Prisoners Sick on Saturday last.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| In Infirmary | $46\frac{1}{2}$ | $63\frac{1}{2}$ |
| In Cells temporarily | 17 | |

### Detail of Quarry Work.

| | Tons. | |
|---|---|---|
| From 6 tons to 4 tons | $196\frac{1}{3}$ | $722\frac{1}{3}$ |
| „ 4 „ to 2 „ | 262 | |
| „ 2 „ to 2 cwt. | 264 | |
| Below 2 cwt. | | $706\frac{4}{6}$ |
| Ordinary foundation, flat-bedded stone rough dressed, with Lewis holes, slate materials, rubble special selected, and hand-picked rubble for hearting | | 190 |
| Average quantity of stone sent to the Breakwater daily * | | 1,618$\frac{5}{6}$ |
| Whitbed and roach quarried daily and not sent to Breakwater | | $66\frac{2}{6}$ |
| | | 1,685$\frac{1}{6}$ |

* Being a daily average of $203\frac{3}{4}$ tons per hour of actual work.

### Memorandum.

Two parties with cranes are taking up lower beds of rock without any rubble on top; a part of 6 parties with cranes are quarrying whitbed and roach, average $66\frac{2}{6}$ tons daily, not included or sent to Breakwater; and 5 men each day are building boundary wall round the west quarries; consequently the quantities sent to the Breakwater are low.

(H.)—Return of Classes and Sentences of Prisoners in Portland Prison for each Quarter of the Year 1855.

| Quarter ending | Class. | | | Total in Prison. | Term of Sentence. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1st. | 2d. | 3d. | | 3 years. | 4 years. | 5 years. | 6 years. | 7 years. | 8 years. | 10 years. | 12 years. | 14 years. | 15 years. | 20 years. | 21 years. | 25 years. | 31 years. | Life. |
| March - - | 1,366 | 74 | 57 | =1,497 | 2 | 148 | 11 | 42 | 812 | 7 | 388 | 4 | 12 | 26 | 9 | 5 | – | – | 31 |
| June - - - | 1,339 | 100 | 54 | =1,493 | 1 | 289 | 23 | 73 | 707 | 13 | 349 | 4 | 10 | 14 | 3 | 2 | – | – | 5 |
| September - | 1,312 | 115 | 90 | =1,517 | 1 | 404 | 29 | 93 | 594 | 15 | 327 | 4 | 12 | 27 | 4 | 1 | – | – | 6 |
| December - | 1,266 | 136 | 104 | =1,506 | – | 704 | 35 | 77 | 323 | 17 | 255 | 3 | 23 | 45 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 11 |

Governor's Report.

(I.)—Statement of Offences and Punishments during the year 1855.

| No. of Offenders punished. | | | Number of Men not punished. | Number of Offences for which actual Punishment was inflicted. | | | | Total Number of Admonitions. | Average daily Number of Men in Prison. | Total No. of Prisoners during the Year. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| By Director. | By Governor. | Total. | | By Director. | By Governor. | Total. | Average Number of Offences daily. | | | |
| 47* | 370 | 417 | 2,355 | 55 | 647 | 70·2 | 1·92 (or 0·13 per cent.) | 236 | 1,482·331 | 2,772 |

* Corporal Punishment, 25.

(K.)—Statement of the Expenditure of Portland Prison for the Year ended 31st March 1856.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Salaries of principal officers and clerks | 3,638 | 6 | 9 |
| Wages of subordinate officers and servants | 8,579 | 5 | 1 |
| Salaries and wages of manufacturing or labour department | 666 | 18 | 9 |
| Rations for officers, and allowances in lieu thereof | 2,268 | 12 | 2 |
| Uniforms for officers and servants | 619 | 8 | 0 |
| Victualling prisoners | 20,188 | 18 | 6 |
| Clothing, &c. for prisoners | 6,273 | 14 | 11 |
| Bedding for prisoners | 726 | 4 | 4 |
| Medicines, surgical instruments, &c. | 209 | 15 | 2 |
| Medical comforts (extras for the sick) | 99 | 17 | 3 |
| Clothing and travelling expenses of prisoners on their liberation | 2,550 | 17 | 9 |
| Gratuities to convicts | 6,199 | 15 | 3½ |
| Furniture and fittings | 177 | 7 | 2 |
| Kitchen utensils, crockery, cutlery, &c. | 90 | 9 | 2 |
| Fuel and light for general puposes | 1,814 | 9 | 6 |
| Buildings, hulks, and ordinary repairs | 1,810 | 11 | 7 |
| Soap, scouring and cleaning articles | 495 | 11 | 5 |
| Brushes, brooms, and mops | 161 | 15 | 10 |
| Funeral expenses, inquests, &c. | 10 | 4 | 0 |
| Various small disbursements | 335 | 15 | 5½ |
| Rent, rates, and taxes | 321 | 16 | 6 |
| Total | 57,239 | 14 | 7 |
| Deduct—Amount of sundry receipts, and value of productive labour | 1,397 | 5 | 11 |
| Net expenditure £ | 55,842 | 8 | 8 |

# II.

## CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

*Convict Establishment, Portland,*
*January* 23, 1856.

Chaplain's Report.

GENTLEMEN,

THE time appointed for the submission of annual reports having arrived, I beg leave to tender the following, on subjects connected with my department.

I. *The Religious and Moral Condition of the Prisoners.*

Religious condition.

The retrospect of 1855 indicates rather a declining tendency than otherwise to the religious bearing of the prisoners. Partly on account of the brevity of their continuance here prior to embarkation, and the excitement which naturally attends extensive arrivals and departures; there having been no less than 1,260 of the former and 1,266 of the latter. This state of transition from what may be termed the *Transporting* to the *Penal Servitude* system, has certainly not been friendly to religious progression. For some time there was so much uncertainty in the minds of the prisoners concerning the duration of their sentence that they were unsettled, wanting the tranquillity essential to the profitable reception of Divine truth. Some of the judges, recorders, or presiding officials had distinctly told not a few of the prisoners, when passing sentences of penal servitude, that by good conduct they would obtain a considerable diminution of their time of service. These promises were repeated by the resident authorities of the prisons receiving the men immediately after trial, and held out to them as incentives to proper behaviour. When they had been some time at Portland they discovered that all who had encouraged them to hope for a decreased imprisonment were mistaken, and that as a general rule, every day of their sentence would be exacted. They saw men who had been sentenced to seven years' transportation going home with licences, when they had accomplished three years and a half. In vain they were told that no one had wilfully deceived them, but had erred in judgment; in vain they were reminded that the difference between the old seven years sentence and its substitute, the new four years sentence, existed more in sound than in reality, because by the former they served three years and a half, and then were but licensed prisoners at large, having the law hanging over them until the completion of the seven years; whereas under the sentence of penal bondage for four years, that time being fulfilled, they were entirely free from the demands of justice. If they had seen their punishment in this light from its commencement, no disappointment would have ensued; but having been misinformed (however unintentionally and with the best motives,) many relapsed into a sullen state of disaffection,

Chaplain's Report.

believing themselves to be injured persons. In this state of mind, 64 of the younger prisoners refused to work, being secretly persuaded by their ill-disposed seniors, who, with characteristic cowardice, left their dupes to bear the consequences of disobedience.

By prompt and vigorous measures, the insubordinates were quickly reduced to order and obedience, but the excitement, irritation, and disappointment were hostile to the progress of vital Christianity in the hearts of the prisoners.

Notwithstanding these impediments we have reason to be thankful for the many evidences of earnest christianity manifested by the prisoners. The plague spot of disaffection would undoubtedly have spread wider and extended its baneful influence much deeper, but for the firm hold which sacred truth had on the affections of not a few. Throughout the above mentioned crisis, the usual deference was manifested towards the ordinances, House and Ministers of God, nor was any communicant implicated in the ill-advised movement.

Number of communicants.

The aggregate number of prisoners who partook of the Lord's Supper during the last year was 660, giving an average of 165, communicants at each of the quarterly celebrations. Those who desire to approach the Lord's table receive special instructions on the subject; they are admonished to count the cost deliberately, before they draw upon themselves the taunts of their scornful fellow prisoners, who, being themselves despisers of that which is good, are reproved by their neighbours' opposite conduct, and diligently watch for any appearance of inconsistency in those who obey that clearest of our Saviour's commands, "Do this in remembrance of me."

Confirmation.

In November, 42 prisoners were confirmed by the Lord Bishop of Salisbury.

There are those who consider any zealous professions of Christianity as evidences of weakness or hypocrisy. There are more who believe that a convict's religion is merely a cloak for ulterior purposes. Both these opinions are equally distant from the truth. No doubt prisoners speak sometimes, as though they deemed that language was designed to *disguise*, rather than to express their real sentiments, but this vice is by no means peculiar to the convicted. It is too common to the human race, of whom an inspired writer said "As soon as they are born they go astray and speak lies."

Through this universal tendency to deceit, chaplains of prisons, like other spiritual pastors of large flocks, need caution, experience, and discernment when estimating the religious condition of their people.

Sabbath congregation.

The congregation assembling on Sundays in the Chapel of Portland Prison consists of about 1,700 persons, of whom upwards of 1,400 are captives. Strangers are surprised at the orderly deportment and devout attention of these unfortunate men, who as a body reverence the externals of religion, and appear to be interested in its sublime truths. We believe there is no congregation of free persons in the United Kingdom, who conduct themselves with greater propriety. In some degree, this becoming demeanour in the House of God may be regarded as indicative of their religious condition as a body. Discipline may compel a man to sit orderly on his seat, with-

out talking or making improper gestures; but no fear of punishment could make any one earnestly attend to a subject which was utterly distasteful to him. The unfeignable signs of interest often depicted on their 1,400 countenances could not proceed from habit or routine; but prove, that although they are fallen, they are not hopelessly undone, and that they are not listless and unconcerned, when hearing of the wondrous love of Him who came especially to seek and to save such as were lost. It is to be feared, that the religion of too many of the prisoners goes no deeper than simple admiration of the engaging verities of the Bible. They desire, yet linger at the threshold; they are attracted, yet too often hesitate and perish. Chaplain's Report.

On the other hand there are others who not only hear attentively, but humbly obey and come in faith to their Redeemer, and become new creatures, evincing by an altered life, irreproachable conduct, and a serious yet cheerful disposition, the reality of their conversion. If these encouraging results were perceptible only during detention, when the prisoner is shielded from many temptations which will crowd his path the moment after liberation; if upon his return to the trying heat of the race of life, these good fruits by melting, showed themselves to be only waxen imitations; then should we be disheartened, and join our declarations with those who assert that a convict's religion is a mere delusion. But we can declare with thankfulness, that the impressions and resolutions of many are permanent long after they have left their house of bondage. Their letters are full of gratitude and thanks when they have nothing to hope or to fear from those to whom they are addressed. Some will even thankfully acknowledge their captivity to have been a signal mercy. Light shone into their hearts as it chased darkness in the prison of Peter, and though they were tied and bound with the chain of their sins, more than with the restrictions of justice, yet the pitifulness of tender mercy loosed them and they became free indeed. Conversions.

The moral is a more comprehensive view than the religious. It is with the Portland prisoners exactly as in the world at large; all the truly religious are moral, but all the moral are not religious. The former is a much smaller class than the latter. There is no cause for despondency when contemplating the moral aspect of the prisoners.

### II.—*The progressive improvement of Prisoners, and the Method adopted for rewarding and encouraging their Conduct and Exertions.*

When reporting on the improvement of prisoners, we refer almost exclusively to those under sentences of *transportation.* There has scarcely been time to form an opinion grounded on experience concerning men condemned to penal servitude who have but recently heard the regulations propounding the incentives to good conduct and exertion. It remains yet to be proved whether these minor rewards will be sufficiently attractive without the major inducement of decreased imprisonment. That the great bulk of prisoners sentenced under the old Act were improved there can be no doubt; that there should be some exceptions might naturally be expected. If we trace the history of any great number of free persons, shall we not find many, even under favourable circumstances, who did not Transported men.

Chaplain's Report.

rise to the expectations formed of them. What per-centage of our school-fellows prospered, and how many who set out with us in life, made shipwreck of their hopes! When we consider the evil influences often surrounding a convict in infancy and early youth, pressing upon him more powerfully in adolescence, the difficulty of escaping from the thraldom of rascality, and the many doors shut against him when he strives to walk in the path of honesty, it is almost wonderful that something less than three per cent. only are re-committed to prison. Not 120 of the 4,000 prisoners released on licence have abused the clemency of the Crown. The inducement set before these men from the first day of their incarceration was, LIBERTY dependent upon conduct. In effect they were told, show yourselves worthy of freedom, and you shall try once more in the busy scenes of life. Their release was not hastened by any wordy profession of religion or amendment, but by their actions. Speech may be and often is deceptive, but conduct is generally not so fallacious. A man might hold all the theological opinions ever known, or none at all; he might believe everything or nothing, his faith, or the want of it, did not in the least degree affect his prospects of discharge, which depended entirely on his conduct. He who had laboured most industriously and observed the rules most carefully, was deemed the best adapted for successful contest in the arena of the world; and perhaps there will be no more certain means of judging character until some one discovers the method of discerning the motives of a human heart.

Penal servitude men.

As a general rule, the men sentenced to penal servitude have no hope of shortening their confinement, consequently a powerful incentive to good conduct is lost. It is to be feared that no adequate substitute for the hope of liberty can be devised. The proposed rewards for good conduct, namely, the privilege of writing letters and receiving visits more frequently, some additional gratuity, &c., &c., are not sufficiently esteemed to be operative for good. It is the love of liberty which lies nearest to a prisoner's heart, and which will ever be the cheapest and best reward for exemplary conduct. Half the term of a sentence was no doubt too much to offer as an inducement, but I do not expect the same beneficial results from the other extreme of entire servitude.

### III. *The Means used for the Religious Instruction of the Prisoners, the Course of Instruction in the Schools, and the Books in use.*

Religious instruction is imparted to the prisoners by plain sermons, expository lectures, Bible classes, conversations, lending or giving books and tracts. Very encouraging letters have been received from men who had been prisoners speaking in grateful terms of their advancement in divine truth. These letters were penned when the writers could have none but a sincere motive, being at a distance from those who were formerly in authority over them.

Require an organ.

The efficiency of the congregational singing has been increased since the introduction of the harmonium and the formation of singing classes. The instrument, however, is much too feeble for leading

1,700 men's voices in so spacious a chapel. For our heavy duties no instrument will be found ultimately cheaper or more useful than an *organ*, which is urgently needed in lieu of the distressed harmonium. Chaplain's Report.

The routine of secular instruction and the books employed are the same as were minutely described in the last report. The scholastic examination on reception has been more searching and exact. Many prisoners come deplorably ignorant considering they have had nine months' separate confinement. There were no less than eight men who could neither read nor write, arrived in one batch of 69 lately. Secular instruction.

The library has been raised to a total of 4,198 volumes, but has never reached the allowed number of 6,000 which would not be one more than is required. The library.

The tract society kindly granted in 1855 ten pounds' worth of tracts, "Leisure Hours," and "Sundays at Home." The Christian Knowledge Society also forwarded five pounds' worth of their publications for the same benevolent object. Both these noble associations deserve our warmest thanks. Book societies.

## IV. *The apparent Effects of the Discipline of the Prison.*

I am of opinion that it cannot candidly be said, that the apparent effects of the discipline of the prison are so pleasing as in former years when pnenal servitude as now understood was unknown; partly because, first, the prisoners were induced to believe they would not serve all their time, and afterwards were told the contrary; secondly, because the hope of diminishing their imprisonment by good conduct has been taken away and an equal substitute has not been found.

## V. *The Disposal of Prisoners on their Discharge, their Prospects, and any Accounts which may subsequently have been received, the Date of the Death of such as may have died in the Prison, and the State of Mind in which they shall appear to have died.*

The number of prisoners released on licence during the last year was 688 and the number returned to prison with licences revoked was 17, or less than three per cent of the whole. Under the circumstances it is truly wonderful that so few have been re-committed. The public mind has been prejudiced against them. They have been dismissed from employments, only because it has been discovered that that they held tickets of leave. Some noble minded individuals have dealt with the fallen in a conciliatory and forgiving spirit, as if anxious to assist the unfortunate in covering the past with an improved present and future. They were not disappointed in the work of benevolence. Information received proves that a large number of Portland's late prisoners are at this moment good and prosperous members of society.

It would be very desirable if all who declared they had no prospects in this country might be sent to Western Australia, irrespective of the length of their sentence. The number of applicants would not be embarrassing. There they have a probability of success, but in Great Britain not a ray of hope. The hopeless.

Chaplain's Report.

Last year 503 prisoners were removed from Portland to distant stations, viz.:—

| Date. | Ship's Name. | Number. | Destination. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 27 January - | "Stag" - - - | 85 | Western Australia. |
| 5 February - | "Scindian" - - - | 96 | Gibraltar. |
| 14 April - - | "Adelaide" - - - | 102 | Western Australia. |
| 1 December - | "Castle Eden - - - | 140 | Bermuda. |
| 18 December - | "William Hammond" - | 80 | Western Australia. |

The following is a tabular view of the information which has been received concerning them.

A RETURN of FOURTEEN CONVICTS sent to Western Australia, of whom information has been received by the Chaplain of Portland Prison during the year 1855.

| Register No. | Name. | When Discharged. | Date of Information Received. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1,897 | F. W. P. | 23/12/53 | 11/11/55 | Clerk: salary 100*l.* per annum. |
| 2,099 | C. C. | „ | „ | Ditto. |
| 1,784 | W. H. W. | 29/10/51 | „ | Very respectably married. |
| 1,649 | J. H. - | 8/11/52 | „ | Left the colony. |
| 2,101 | W. P. - | 23/12/53 | „ | A drunkard. |
| 2,252 | J. T. - | „ | „ | Shepherd: doing well. |
| 2,384 | C. C. - | „ | „ | Cook: wages 1*l.* per month. |
| 1,739 | W. J. - | 24/1/53 | „ | A drunkard. |
| 1,788 | T. R. - | 16/8/50 | „ | Re-convicted: sentence 20 years. |
| 2,219 | W. B. - | 24/1/53 | „ | „ 10 „ |
| 2,376 | A. K. H. | 23/4/52 | „ | Employed by the Government. |
| 4,330 | S. S. - | 27/1/55 | 20/10/55 | On public works: doing well. |
| 3,966 | J. M. - | „ | 26/10/55 | Ditto. |
| 3,346 | J. S. T. - | 19/4/54 | 7/4/55 | Ditto. |

Deaths.

We have had seven prisoners removed by death. 3,249, John M'G., was not considered alarmingly ill until shortly before his death. 4,601, J. D., suffered from consumption. He lingered long, was calm and resigned, as far as man can judge, departing this life truly penitent. 2,506, J. C., died on the 7th of July; he was a Roman Catholic and attended by his priest; he always appeared pleased with the Protestant daily services. S D., 3,969, expired on the 14th of July; he was of somewhat weak intellect; there was nothing satisfactory in his state of mind. 3,571, J. P., died on the 15th of September; there was hope in his death. 3,656, R. S., was killed in the quarries by a locomotive engine. H. R., 4,034, died on the 19th October, sincerely penitent; he had learned all he knew of the Christian religion in prison.

The above are the noticeable points for report in the current of last year's events. It only remains that I should record my deep

sense of the valuable aid rendered by the assistant chaplain, the Scripture reader, and the school-masters. The seeds of instruction often appear to fall on barren ground, and to be lost to sight for a season; yet we are taught and encouraged to continue sowing in hope, not doubting but that the fruit will appear, though it may be after many days.

I am, Gentlemen, yours faithfully,

WM. HOLDERNESS,

*Chaplain.*

*To the Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

# III.

## MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Medical Officer's Report.

GENTLEMEN, *Portland Prison, January* 10, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to forward the seventh Annual Medical Report of this prison for the year ending 31st December 1855.

In comparing the general state of the prisoners' health for the past year, it has on the whole been highly satisfactory; no epidemic of importance has existed, but some troublesome cases of erysipelas prevailed, but I feel happy to state that they all terminated favourably.

There has been an exemption from the numerous, and in some cases violent attacks of bilious and malignant cholera of the previous autumn; the same sanitary measures as regards diet, &c., were adopted, with apparent good results.

The number of admissions into the infirmary has been nearly the same, but the accidents show a considerable increase, and many of those of a severe nature, two requiring amputation of the limbs; this must be attributed to the general extension of the public works, and the large number of prisoners employed thereon; one of the accidents proved fatal.

The total number of prisoners received during the year amounted to 1,260, and the prison at present contains 1,506.

The following tables will point out the general state of the prisoners' health, also those admitted into the infirmary, the number of casual daily sick, the deaths, the removals, and pardons on medical grounds.

In Table No. 1 are enumerated those diseases and accidents admitted into the infirmary. Febrile catarrhs and other affections of the respiratory organs prevailed extensively during the first quarter of the year, on the approach of summer they gradually subsided and became convalescent; several cases of rheumatic fever of a severe form prevailed, but though their convalescence was tedious, they (with one exception, who had heart disease) ultimately became restored to health.

In Table No. 2 are recorded the deaths that have occurred in the prison during the year, viz., seven in number, six of which were from natural causes, and one from accident in the quarries.

In Table No. 3 are the cases of four prisoners who, from extreme bad health, received a discharge on medical grounds; several also had their sentence mitigated in consequence of severe injuries received on the public works.

In Table No. 4, are recorded the cases of 16 prisoners, who, from various organic or functional diseases, or age and infirmity, were unfit

for labour on the public works at Portland; they were removed to the "Stirling Castle" invalid hulk at Gosport and to Dartmoor prison.

Table No. 5 is a statistical return of the daily average number and per-centage of infirmary and casual sick.

*General Remarks.*—I may remark, that soon after the reception of prisoners into this establishment they loose their blanched looks, their features become more natural and animated, this I ascribe to the body and mind being cheerfully occupied, working daily in the quarries; many cases of general debility have considerably improved in health from breathing the fine pure bracing sea air of the island; the scale of diet has been found sufficient for those employed at hard labour and out-door work, and the clothing suitable for the work and the locality.

The light and ventilation of the prison appears ample for all sanitary purposes.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. HOUGHTON,

*To the Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.* *Medical Officer.*

## Table No. 1.

### Cases of Sickness, &c. admitted to Infirmary.

Medical Officer's Report.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Zymotic disease : —** | |
| Febrile catarrh | 126 |
| Rheumatic fever | 17 |
| Diarrhœa crapulosæ | 145 |
| Colica | 3 |
| Erysipelas | 17 |
| Typhoid fever | 1 |
| **Sporadic disease :—** | |
| Hæmorrhoids | 10 |
| Hæmoptysis | 6 |
| Abscess | 100 |
| Ulcers | 42 |
| Scrofula | 15 |
| Phthisis | 8 |
| Debility | 18 |
| Cephalalgia | 6 |
| Hæmaturia | 1 |
| Epistaxis | 6 |
| **Sporadic disease of special system and organs:—** | |
| Delusions | 1 |
| Paralysis | 1 |
| Epilepsia | 8 |
| Ophthalmia | 62 |
| Otitis | 2 |
| **Respiratory organs :—** | |
| Catarrhs | 164 |
| Bronchitis | 16 |
| Pleuritis | 27 |
| Pneumonia | 10 |
| **Digestive organs :—** | |
| Cynanche tonsillaris | 85 |
| Dyspepsia | 33 |
| Icterus | 3 |
| Constipation | 212 |
| **Locomotive organs :—** | |
| Periostitis | 2 |
| Chronic rheumatism | 99 |
| **Integumentary system :—** | |
| Pernio | 28 |
| Paronychia | 24 |
| Herpes | 14 |
| Furunculus | 242 |
| Anthrax | 2 |
| Impetigo | 3 |
| Acne indurata | 11 |
| Scabies | 3 |
| **Accidents :—** | |
| Incised wounds | 5 |
| Sprains | 26 |
| Contused wounds | 109 |
| Contusions | 208 |
| Fractures, simple | 9 |
| „ compound | 3 |
| Dislocations | 2 |
| Burns and scalds | 7 |
| Hernia | 1 |
| Total | 1,943 |

## Table No. 2.—Deaths during the Year.

| Register No. | Age. | Received into this Prison. | State of Health when received. | Admitted to Infirmary. | Date of Death. | Cause of Death. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | 1855. | 1855. | |
| 3,249 | 30 | 26 April 1853 | Stout and healthy | 14 May | 16 May | Typhus fever. |
| 4,601 | 20 | 13 February 1855 | Slender and delicate | 14 March | 27 May | Pulmonary consumption. |
| 3,506 | 26 | 11 August 1853 | ,, | 10 April | 7 July | ,, |
| 3,969 | 20 | 27 January 1854 | Healthy | 24 June | 14 July | Acute bronchitis. |
| 3,571 | 33 | 12 September 1853 | ,, | 5 August | 15 September | Extensive internal abscess. |
| 3,656 | 32 | 20 September 1853 | ,, | ,, | 17 September | Fractured neck and skull from falling under the engine when in motion. |
| 4,034 | 20 | 2 February 1854 | Slender and delicate | 13 September | 19 October | Hæmoptysis. |

## Table No. 3.—Discharged on Medical Grounds.

| Register. | Age. | Received into this Prison. | State of Health when received. | Date of Discharge. | Disease. | Periods of Imprisonment. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3,623 | 22 | 19 Sept. 1853 | Good | 30 March 1855 | Consumption | Two years and eight months. |
| 3,521 | 23 | 12 ,, ,, | Slender | 2 May ,, | Ditto | Three years. |
| 4,576 | 20 | 13 Feb. 1855 | Healthy | 12 July ,, | Ditto | Two years and one month. |
| 3,517 | 30 | 12 Sept. 1853 | Slender and delicate. | 7 Aug. ,, | Ditto | Three years and three months. |

TABLE No. 4.—REMOVALS on MEDICAL GROUNDS, being unfit for Labour on the Public Works at Portland.

| Register No. | Age. | Received into this Prison. | State of Health when received. | Date of Removal. | Where removed. | Cause of Unfitness for Labour. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4,565 | 50 | 22 Dec. 1854 - | Consumption; much emaciated - - - - | 14 March 1855 - | "Stirling Castle," hulk - - | Consumption. |
| 4,566 | 64 | 22 Dec. „ - | Extensive anthrax on neck; debility - - - - | „ „ | „ | Aged and infirm. |
| 3,959 | 25 | 27 Jan. „ - | Good - - - - | „ „ | „ | Chronic bronchitis. |
| 4,112 | 26 | 19 April „ - | Healthy - - - - | „ „ | „ | Epilepsy from injury. |
| 4,101 | 20 | 15 March „ - | Slender; narrow chest - | „ „ | „ | Incipient consumption. |
| 3,490 | 51 | 11 Aug. 1853 - | Health indifferent - - | 5 Sept. „ | Dartmoor Prison - | Infirm. |
| 4,252 | 57 | 7 June 1854 - | Good - - - - | „ „ | „ | Weak mind. |
| 4,849 | 34 | 18 April 1855 - | Apparently good - - | „ „ | „ | Ditto. |
| 4,851 | 24 | „ | Ditto - - - - | „ „ | „ | Ditto. |
| 4,249 | 24 | 2 May 1854 - | Palpitation - - - | „ „ | „ | Hæmoptysis. |
| 4,718 | 26 | 15 Feb. 1855 - | Healthy - - - - | „ „ | "Stirling Castle," hulk - - | Paralysis. |
| 3,961 | 20 | 27 Jan. 1854 - | Slender and delicate - - | „ „ | Dartmoor Prison - | Incipient consumption. |
| 5,183 | 27 | 20 July 1855 - | Ditto - - - - | „ „ | „ | Ditto. |
| 3,331 | 22 | 27 April 1853 - | Good - - - - | „ „ | „ | Ditto. |
| 3,570 | 24 | 12 Sept. 1853 - | Ditto - - - - | „ „ | „ | Strumous disease. |
| | 24 | 12 June 1854 - | Ditto - - - | „ „ | „ | Heart disease after acute rheumatism. |

Medical Officer's Report.

TABLE No. 5.

DAILY Average Number of PRISONERS, Per-centage of SICK, &c.

| Daily Average Number of Prisoners. | Daily Average Number of Infirmary Sick. | Per-centage of Infirmary Sick. | Daily Average Number of complaining Sick. | Daily Average Number of Prisoners unfit for Labour. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 56·64 | 3·81 | 47·57 | 56·64 |

TABLE showing the Daily Average SICKNESS of the SUBORDINATE OFFICERS.

| Daily Average Number of Officers. | Daily Average Number Sick, including Accidents. | Average Number of Days each Officer was Sick. | Number Died. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 156·25 | 3 | 5 | 3 |

# REPORT

OF THE

# DIRECTORS OF CONVICT PRISONS

ON THE

## DISCIPLINE AND MANAGEMENT

OF

# DARTMOOR PRISON.

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# DARTMOOR PRISON.

## REPORT,

For the Year 1855, of the Directors of the Convict Prisons, made, as regards Dartmoor Prison, in pursuance of the Acts 5 Geo. IV. cap. 84. and 13 & 14 Vict. cap. 39.;—specifying the State of the Buildings; the Behaviour and Conduct of the Officers of the Prison, and of the Convicts; the Amount of the Earnings of the Convicts, and the Expense of the Prison; and such other Matters relating to the Discipline and Management thereof as they shall deem expedient, or the Secretary of State shall direct.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.*

To the Right Honourable Sir GEORGE GREY, G.C.B.,
*Secretary of State for the Home Department.*

Sir, 45, *Parliament Street*, 1856.

We have the honour to submit our annual Report on Dartmoor Convict Prison, for the year 1855.

### *Buildings.*

Buildings. The buildings are generally in a good state, and no repairs or alterations to any considerable extent have been necessary during the year, beyond the repairs which the unfavourable nature of the climate, and the age of the main buildings and other masonry, (not originally of good construction) necessarily require at this station.

### *Conduct of the Officers.*

Conduct of the officers. The very important duties of the superior officers of this prison establishment have been conducted with zeal and attention. Mr. Morrish, the Governor, (appointed in the previous year,) has proved that he fully possesses the qualifications necessary for the performance of the arduous, and, in some

respects, peculiar duties of the Governor of a prison, in which the men confined are chiefly invalids, and the anxious and constant desire to apply those qualifications in the manner most advantageous for the service. Showing this example to the discipline officers, he has derived from them the assistance necessary to enable him to maintain order and regularity among a class of prisoners difficult to deal with, and to promote the agricultural objects of the establishment.

The duties of the Chaplain's department have been zealously performed by the Chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Dobie, and his assistant, the Rev. Mr. Batchelor, who have been satisfactorily aided by the schoolmasters in encouraging and assisting the prisoners in the opportunities for educational improvement afforded by the prison school.

Dr. Campbell, the principal Medical Officer, continues to pay every attention to the health of the prisoners, and to the sanitary condition and objects of the prison. The perusal of his annexed Report will show the nature and extent of his duties, in which he has had the zealous aid of the assistant surgeon, Mr. Smith, and which we have every reason to believe to be performed with faithfulness and general success.

The conduct of the subordinate officers and servants of the prison have been generally satisfactory; some changes have been necessary, as will be seen by reference to the Governor's Report in which he states that "time and continuous duty can alone fit a man for the varied and peculiar duties of a prison such as this, where invalids suffering in body and mind are mixed up with other prisoners."

The responsibility of the officers has been considerably increased at this prison by the withdrawal of the regular military guard, which has been replaced by a smaller body of military pensioners, but the service does not appear to have suffered by the arrangement.

*Number and Disposal of the Prisoners.*

Number and disposal of the prisoners.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Remaining in confinement 1st January 1855 - | 1053 | |
| Received during the year - - - | 545 | |
| | | 1598 |
| Removed to Western Australia - - | 75 | |
| „ Bermuda - - - - | 16 | |
| „ Millbank Prison - - - | 8 | |
| „ Pentonville - - - | 2 | |
| „ Portsmouth - - - | 1 | |
| „ "Stirling Castle Hulk" - - | 33 | |
| „ Lunatic Asylums - - | 1 | |
| „ Exeter Gaol - - - | 1 | |
| Carried forward - - | 137 | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Brought forward - | 137 | |
| Discharged by free pardon - - - | 2 | |
| „ Orders of licence - - - | 495 | |
| „ Expiration of sentence - - | 1 | |
| Escapes - - - - - | 2 | |
| Deaths - - - - - | 24 | |
| | | 661 |
| Remaining in confinement 31st December - | | 937 |
| | | 1598 |

## *Treatment and Condition of the Prisoners.*

Treatment and condition of the prisoners.

Nothing has occurred to cause us to doubt that the treatment of the prisoners, and their condition as convicts undergoing sentences of transportation or penal servitude, have been in accordance with the established rules and regulations. Their food and clothing are sufficient, and their employment has been duly regulated under the direction of the medical officers, according to the physical abilities of each individual. They have had the regulated amount of school instruction, and all practicable opportunities of moral and religious improvement. Their applications and complaints to the visiting Director have been duly enquired into and disposed of.

## *Health.*

Health

The particulars of the diseases, and general state of health of the prisoners, are fully given in the Medical Officer's annexed annual Report and accompanying Tables. The deaths during the year have been 24 out of an average daily population of 1039.

## *Conduct of the Prisoners.*

Conduct of the prisoners.

There has been a considerable reduction in the proportion of able-bodied prisoners to the whole number in the prison during the past year. As may naturally be expected in the conduct of a number of men in the position of invalid prisoners associated together, and each having his own bodily ailment to annoy him, and be his excuse for any departure from the observance of due discipline, the reports of prison offences are more frequent here than in ordinary prisons, where this state of things does not exist. Nevertheless, the conduct of the very large majority of the prisoners has been satisfactory, and with respect to the prison offences generally, the Governor states—"In an invalid prison, whilst the causes pre-
"ponderate which excite to the commission of offences, at
"the same time the very depreciated standard of responsi-
"bility amongst the prisoners prevents the full administration

" of judicial punishment; but I am not without hopes that " renewed experience may suggest a nearer approximation to " the solution of the difficult question of what are the most " reformatory punishments."

Here, as at the other associated convict prisons, there has been an observable difference in the bearing of the prisoners under penal servitude from that of others under sentence of transportation, arising from the discontent of the former at the different regulations, as regards any remission of imprisonment, under which they are placed, as compared with those prisoners who were allowed after a certain period to be discharged on licence. Many of the former class it appears came to the prison with the idea that they were not to serve the whole of their sentences, and stated that they had been so informed at the time of their conviction and afterwards, and finding this not to be the case they became discontented and in some degree disaffected. The regulations made, however, for periodical mitigations of discipline and prison restrictions, have shown them that good conduct will be encouraged, though not altogether in the same way as before, and the ill feeling which at first caused much anxiety to the prison authorities appears in some measure to have subsided; a result that is, no doubt, in a great degree also due to the moral influence discreetly exercised over the great body of the prisoners by the superior officers of the prison.

### *Moral and Religious Improvement and Progress in School Instruction.*

Moral and religious improvement, and progress in school instruction.

The Chaplain speaks favourably of the general state of the prisoners on these points in his annexed annual Report.

### *Labour and General Employment.*

Labour and general employment.

As before mentioned, the number of able-bodied men fit for hard labour on public works has been much reduced during the year at Dartmoor, the prisoners now confined here being chiefly invalids, fit only for the lighter descriptions of work.

The labour consists chiefly in cutting peat, and farm labour on the ground attached to the prison; in the necessary artificers' work for alterations and repairs of the prison buildings; in making and repairing clothing for the convicts confined here; in washing, baking, cooking, and cleaning for the prison; and picking oakum for the Dockyard at Plymouth. This last kind of employment was one much needed in the prison in former years, there having then been a difficulty in finding employment for many convicts not fit for out-of-door labour, but not possessing a sufficient knowledge of any useful

in-door trade, and for the general body of prisoners when the weather was unfit for working out of doors.

The details of the hours daily occupied at labour are given in the Appendix (B.) of the Governor's annexed Report, and the particulars of the work performed, and the estimated value of the labour in Appendix (C.), (D.), and (E). The value of the farm produce, and the quantity of peat consumed in making gas for the prison and general purposes of fuel, will be found in the same Appendix (F.), (G.), and (H).

### *Expenses.*

Expenses.

The expenditure of the prison, exclusive of buildings, during the year has been 40,959*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.* This amount includes 3591*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.* as gratuities or earnings of prisoners on discharge with licence or otherwise, and is reduced by sundry receipts and value of productive labour to 39,596*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*

### *Industry.*

Industry.

The Governor reports on this head that, "The productive-"ness of the prisoners' labour for the past year has been con-"siderably diminished, arising from the increased number of "invalids, and the removal, by discharge on licence, of a large "number of the able bodied men. Making allowance for these "drawbacks, the work performed by the prisoners has been "satisfactory, and the reports for idleness on the works few. A "cheerful industry is observed in the majority." Considering the great difficulty of duly apportioning and exacting a proper individual amount of labour among invalids of every degree of bodily infirmity, short of actual incapacity for work, and that many of them are of a class denominated "weak-minded," we consider that the degree of industry maintained and the amount of labour performed have been very satisfactory.

### *General Observations.*

General observations.

The principal difficulty which has been experienced in managing the invalid prisoners at this station, has arisen from the weak-minded class of convicts before referred to. It has been found that, mixed with other prisoners, they obstruct the regular course of discipline, occupy an undue share of the attention of the officers in watching them, and when badly disposed, or irritable, prove themselves exceedingly dangerous, not only to the officers, but to their sound-minded fellow prisoners, among whom unfortunately there will be always found some, sufficiently evil disposed themselves, to take pleasure in teasing and provoking other prisoners of the unfortunate class alluded to. It is proposed to separate the weak-minded convicts altogether from the

others, and to endeavour to manage them under the constant superintendence of the Medical Officers, and the charge of a distinct class of officers selected for the purpose, by a qualified system of discipline more adapted to their state of comparative mental incapacity. We have alluded already in this Report, under the head of "Conduct of the Prisoners," to the prevalence of discontent among the prisoners undergoing sentences of penal servitude, at finding that it was the intention of the authorities to carry out, as a sentence of imprisonment, the full term of their sentences. The regulations for rewarding good conduct by progressive privileges in the prison, gradually approaching a considerable relaxation of discipline (instead of the former practice of shortening the actual time of imprisonment beyond a minimum period proportioned to the sentence), has apparently quieted the ill feeling that prevailed, and some of the prisoners, who were convicted at an early period of the operation of the new Act of Parliament, have already become entitled to the privileges of some of the advanced "stages" under the new regulations, but the real effect on the general conduct and industry of the prisoners as a body will scarcely be ascertained until a later period, when the new system will have been fully enforced.

Under the system of granting prisoners licences in this country, 495 have been discharged during the year. Up to the beginning of the year 467 licences had been granted for this prison, making a total of 962 from the commencement of the operation of the Act. The total number of revocations of licence have been only 25 up to the present time, and it has not come to the knowledge of the prison authorities that more than a very small number of discharged prisoners, beyond the above, have been committed for breaches of the law. On the other hand, intelligence has been received that a considerable number have been gaining an honest livelihood, and there is, on these grounds, fair reason for the hope that the instances of relapse into crime have been sufficiently rare to justify the opinion that so far the experiment has been successful. The experience of its working hitherto appears on the contrary to warrant the belief, that while opportunities can be found by the licensed convicts of obtaining honest employment, they will take advantage of it in preference to relapsing into crime, and risking a return to imprisonment for the remainder of their sentence. Supposing the licensed convict thus to persevere in good conduct until the expiration of his sentence has rendered him entirely free, it is reasonable to believe that his character would then have been sufficiently established to induce many persons, who might at first have

been unwilling to employ him, to take him into suitable service. The question of the means of sufficient honest employment on first discharge is therefore one most important in the experiment of the system of liberating convicts on licence in this country. Many of them succeed in obtaining promises of employment before their recommendation for licence, but in many other instances they have to seek for employment such as may be suitable to them wherever it can be found; and no doubt those who have not skill in trades for which hands may be in demand, must often experience much difficulty in finding employment; this will be especially the case with invalids whose bodily strength would not fit them for effective work as ordinary labourers.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servants,

J. Jebb, Colonel, R.E.,
*Chairman.*

I. S. Whitty,
*Director of Convict Prisons.*

# APPENDIX.

## I.

## GOVERNOR'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN, *Dartmoor Prison, January* 10, 1856.

Governor's Report.

IN conformity with the 42nd Article of the Rules for the Government of Convict Prisons, I have the honour to submit to you the required Report for the year ended December 1855.

I beg to refer, in the first place, to the conduct of the subordinate officers, comprising principal warders, warders, and assistant warders.

Principal Warders.

The principal warders have continued to perform their arduous duties in an equally satisfactory manner with that which I had the gratification of noticing in my last year's report, and as I have ever considered this class, by their example and efficient performance of their duty, to exercise a most beneficial influence over the junior officers, and thereby to render them additionally useful in their more immediate contact with the prisoners, it gives me much pleasure to be enabled to report to you that the principal warders of the establishment deserve my highest praise.

*The Warders.*—I have the satisfaction of informing you that the staff of warders generally have improved since my last report, and with very little more training and experience they will become a body of well-conducted and serviceable officers. A few removals from this class have led to the promotion of some of the most eligible of the assistant warders, and I am happy to say they have justified the selection which has been made.

*The Assistant Warders.*—In this class, which must be considered the nursery or training school for the service, the character and qualifications of the men as a whole must be very fluctuating, and difficult of being reduced to a fixed standard of discipline and efficiency, arising from the constant changes which are occurring, either from the dismissal of newly admitted candidates, who upon trial are unfit, or from the resignation of others who have discovered that their duties demanded both moral and physical energies greater than they were able to bestow; time and continuous duty can alone fit a man for the varied and peculiar duties of a prison such as this, where invalids suffering severely, both bodily and mentally, are mixed up with other prisoners. At the same time, however, I can with confidence state that a considerable number exhibit much zeal and intelligence, and are becoming well trained in their duties.

Governor's Report.

The military guard of pensioners have continued to perform their duties in the same satisfactory manner as in the previous year; the reduction in the strength of the military force, which it was found necessary to make about two years ago, has very considerably increased the responsibility of the prison officers, particularly in the summer season, when the gangs of prisoners are necessarily more distributed, consequent upon the harvest operations. This additional control, however, has been exercised without any serious inconvenience.

*Number and Disposal of Prisoners.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Prisoners remaining on 31st December 1854 - | 1,053 |
| Since received, as per Appendix A. - - | 545 |
| | 1,598 |
| Deduct prisoners discharged, died, &c., as per Appendix A. - - - - - | 661 |
| Number remaining on 31st December 1855 - | 937 |

*Sentences, how carried out.*—The convicts, as in former years, have been subjected to the usual discipline, both within the prison and on the public works; viz., performing daily those works particularized under the head "Species of Labour," attending school for the purpose of receiving instruction, and morning and evening prayers, with the usual Sunday services, and I have every reason to believe that this judicious attention to the cultivation of industrious habits and improvement of their mental and moral condition has a permanent and beneficial influence upon their character.

*Treatment of the Prisoners.*—A prisoner's character is, in some respects, an index of his treatment, and it is, therefore, most desirable, in dealing with the convicts, to set before them the advantages of good behaviour; thus, the 1st, 2d, and 3d classes are of the greatest benefit, and act as a wholesome check in restraining them from the commission of offences against the prison rules. All are placed under the prescribed discipline, the exemplary prisoners having, whenever practicable, advantages and a relaxation of the strict surveillance imposed upon those whose conduct is not satisfactory; harshness and unnecessary severity are prohibited, and opportunities are afforded to all for making their complaints known to the superior authorities, and I am unacquainted with any cases that have not received every attention, and the prisoner satisfied that his treatment is in accordance with the rules and regulations. The chaplain has been unremitting in his attendance to the religious and moral instruction of the prisoners, and the medical officer in his usual solicitude in the treatment of the sick. Their reports will afford every information of their services. Whilst under this head of my report, I would take the liberty of observing that I am most happy to notice, from the recent regulations embodied in the "Notice to Convicts under Sentence of Transportation and Penal Servitude," that it is in contemplation to mark additionally the appreciation of good behaviour in the conduct of the prisoners by giving them better diet, and altering their dress from that worn by

Governor's Report.

the other prisoners, also an increased scale of gratuity, as I feel convinced that these are matters of great importance in the estimation of the convicts, and will be a very effective stimulus to good conduct. At the same time, I hope it may not be out of place to observe that there is yet one indulgence which the prisoner prizes most, and which I think, with judicious discernment, may be most beneficially granted.

The prisoner values his liberty above all things, and if any arrangement could be made by which this boon could be given a little earlier than his sentence specified, it would have the best possible tendency to encourage him in maintaining exemplary conduct, and in acquiring those habits of good here which would be of service to him on discharge. If no indulgence of this kind is to be awarded, I think it very unfortunate that, almost without exception, the penal servitude men have come here under the impression that a certain line of conduct will have the effect of reducing their original sentence.

They now hear that this is a delusion, and I have heard of a great deal of discontent prevailing in consequence, which I fear no other reward will remove or any punishment of mine effectually suppress. The most turbulent among them do not hesitate to say they will shorten their time by escape or some, perhaps, worse crime; and the better inclined seem to acquiesce by being despisingly silent, or remarking they may as well do the same for all that good previous behaviour or present good conduct can effect for them.

*Species of Labour.*—Under this head, agricultural and prison labour, with picking junk into oakum for the Devonport Dockyard, have been the employment of the prisoners during the year. The former comprises the usual work of a farm, and reclaiming, by trenching, draining, and enclosing with stone walls, the waste moorland. The prison labour consists of those works necessary for the repairs and alterations of the buildings and premises (under the approval of the surveyor-general), making and repairing prison apparel, and other clothing for prisoners released on licence, cooking, baking, and washing, and the general cleaning of the prisons. The oakum picking for the Devonport Dockyard has afforded a very useful employment for a class of prisoners generally too delicate to stand the out-door agricultural work, and it also provides work for a number of prisoners, on wet and foggy days, who have hitherto been locked up in their different prisons without any means of employment.

*Hours for Prayers, Meals, Labour, &c.*—These necessarily vary with the seasons. Their distribution is given in Appendix B. It not unfrequently occurs that the density of the fogs renders it necessary to alter these hours.

Amounts and particulars of earnings are given in Appendices C, D, and E, and the total of estimated and measured work is valued at 6,302*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.* It must, however, be observed that there is always much work on a farm of which it would be difficult to keep a correct account or classify, and there will always be a considerable loss of time arising from wet and foggy weather; the heavy rains which so frequently prevail here rendering it necessary very often to keep the prisoners off the land for a day or two after the rain has ceased.

Governor's Report.

*Conduct of the Prisoners.*—In an invalid establishment, if the number of prison offences be taken as an index of the prisoners' conduct, the reports and punishments (Appendix K), would afford an unfavourable view of their behaviour. The former number 1,398, and the latter 1,137, of whom 63 have been punished by the visiting director, and 1,074 by the governor. This return bears an unfavourable comparison with other prisons, and may be accounted for from the number of minor offences which occur in an increasing establishment of invalids, whose mental and bodily condition are strong incentives to commit offences from their not possessing an equal moral control as the able-bodied; also from a considerable number of the prisoners having been received here after only a very limited confinement in the close prisons, and consequently not sufficiently long subjected to their well-arranged probationary discipline. Such circumstances will always act adversely, and swell the list of offences. In justice, however, to the great body of prisoners, it is but right I should mention that of the 1,598 prisoners who have been borne on the books for the year, only 446 have been reported, leaving the large number of 1,152 free from offences; and it is encouraging to find that the able-bodied and those in tolerable health exhibit every desire to improve themselves by a cheerful obedience to the discipline of the prison, willingness to work, and a marked attention to the instruction given to them at school once in each week, and an earnest and general participation in the religious services. In bringing my remarks under this head to a conclusion, I would beg to state that in an invalid prison, whilst the causes preponderate which excite to the commission of offences, at the same time the very depreciated standard of responsibility amongst the prisoners prevents the full administration of judicial punishment; but I am not without hopes that renewed experience may suggest a nearer approximation to the solution of the difficult question of what are the most reformatory punishments.

*Condition of the Buildings, &c.*—I have nothing particular to bring to your notice under this head. The periodical repairs and alterations submitted to and approved by the surveyor-general have been attended to, and the buildings, both inside and out, are in very tolerable condition, and have stood the severity of the past winter much better than I expected. It will, however, be apparent that the annual expenditure for repairs will be considerable, in consequence of the exposed and elevated position.

*Expenses.*—Appendix L will show the annual expenditure, in which here is an increase over former years (considering the reduced number of prisoners), in consequence of the high price of provisions, clothing, &c., and from the large number of prisoners released on licence.

*Abuses.*—I am not aware that any have existed during the year.

*Escapes.*—Two prisoners in the month of August effected their escape from the turf-ground, and have not since been recaptured; the particulars of each case were reported to you at the time. Five others attempted to escape, and were recaptured, and remain in the prison, wearing the usual distinctive dress and cross irons.

Governor's Report.

*Industry.*—The productiveness of the prisoners' labour for the past year has been considerably diminished, arising from the increased number of invalids, and the removal, by discharge on licence, of a large number of the able-bodied men. Making allowance for these drawbacks, the work performed by the prisoners has been satisfactory, and the reports for idleness on the works few. A cheerful industry is observable in the majority; the employment in agricultural works appears to me to possess great advantages, and to exercise a beneficial influence over the prisoners' minds. There is, perhaps, less sameness in the cultivation of the land than in any other single employment, and it seems to me desirable, in the selection of work for prisoners (especially invalids), that their occupation should partake as little as possible of a monotonous or merely mechanical character, but should recommend itself it their powers of activity, and thereby eradicate those habits of listlessness and idleness which in too many instances have led to their crimes. It can scarcely be supposed but that, in a body of a thousand men, there are many who have capacities and tastes beyond those for taking a spade or pick in their hands, and I should rejoice in a further extension of the experiment of introducing the acquisition of trades as a more prominent part of the industrial resources of prison life, as I feel convinced that those employments which elicit the inventiveness of the mind have a more reformatory effect than mere hod-man's labour.

*Licence.*—Another year's trial of the licence system affords an opportunity of referring to its results. Since the passing of the Act for the discharge of prisoners on licence in this country, 962 have been liberated, of whom 25 have had their licences revoked, and 1 have only heard of 5 who have undergone a new trial, and are again the inmates of a prison; from the other Government prisons I have no reason to suppose any very dissimilar result. It is very possible the defaulters above quoted are not all who have relapsed into crime, nevertheless there is sufficient evidence that the licence system is far from being unsuccessful, and I think it is manifest that the larger number are doing well, and have entered on an honest course of industry. The success of this system is a matter of deep concern to the community generally, and as a degree of responsibility rests on those whose duty it is from time to time to recommend the discharge of prisoners, it may be expected that they should offer a few remarks relating to a system which has caused (without any good grounds, I venture to state) considerable apprehension in the public mind. I feel I am in a position to bear pleasing testimony in favour of the system, as the result of my experience at Dartmoor, as the defaulters before-mentioned barely exceed 3 per cent. out of the whole number licensed. I do not desire to place too much value on numbers, but coupling with this the frequent intercourse which I have maintained with the released and their employers, and the general satisfactory tenor of their communications, I have no hesitation in affirming that the trial which has been given to the licence system is, on the whole, satisfactory and successful.

Governor's Report.

*The Farm.*—The operations under this head have been continued as in former years, in reclaiming the waste moor-land, by trenching, draining, and enclosing with stone walls. The other works are cutting turf for the purpose of fuel and light, cropping the newly reclaimed lands with swedes, turnips, and potatoes, preparatory to their being sown with grass seeds, as well as the usual work of a farm cultivated for the purposes of a dairy and stock farm, and the supply of vegetables and milk to the prison.

The unusual severity of the weather during the past year has subjected the different operations to many vicissitudes, and the works were considerably retarded; the crops generally have also suffered to a greater extent than in any previous season.

The sales and supplies to the steward are particularized in Appendix F, and represent a sum of 2,231*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* against 2,045*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.* for the year 1854, and exhibit an increase under this head of 185*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.* in favour of the year 1855. The estimated value of the work performed is 2,488*l.* 2*s.*, and a particularized statement is given in Appendix E. Various other works, such as usually appertain to a farm, are not included in the calculation, as no satisfactory or settled price could be arrived at. The result is less in amount than for the year 1854, but exceeds by nearly 200*l.* the labour for the year 1853; this may be considered satisfactory, when the greatly altered capabilities of the convicts be taken into account, and the daily average number employed in agricultural work having been diminished by drafting out the most delicate for picking junk into oakum. With these drawbacks it may be inferred that there is generally no want of willing industry amongst the prisoners.

The crops raised for the year have been hay, bere, oats, potatoes, carrots, parsnips, cabbages, mangolds, swedes, and turnips. Those available for prison use have been transferred to the steward for distribution, and the remainder sold to the prison officers, or consumed by the live stock.

*The Hay Crop.*—About 90 tons have been secured, and, with the exception of a few tons, a good lot of hay has been put together, affording an ample supply of fodder for the cattle and horses until next harvest.

*Barley or Bere.*—Twenty-five acres have been well harvested; the quality of the grain is inferior to the crops of previous years; the rains of June and July, with the lowness of the temperature in the month of August, interfered with the crop arriving at its proper maturity.

*The Oats.*—A very good crop. The lower part of the field being overgrown, it was found necessary to cut it in a green state, which was harvested in good condition, and affords excellent keep for the cattle. The remaining part of the field ripened well, and will produce about 4 qrs. to the acre of useful corn.

*The Potatoes.*—The partial success of last year induced a larger breadth to be planted this year; the crop looked very promising up to the 6th August, when the disease first appeared and stopped

Governor's Report.

their further growth. On taking up the roots, they were much diseased and small.

*Swedes and Turnips.*—These roots are much inferior to previous years, having suffered severely from the ravages of the fly in the early stages of their growth.

*Mangold-Wurtzel.*—The severity of the climate prevents any extensive growth of this valuable root, and it can only be grown in sheltered places with any degree of success; the crop of this year is about an average of former years.

*Vegetables.*—Under this head is comprised cabbages, carrots, parsnips, and celery. These are cultivated for prison use, and have yielded a fair crop. The quantities supplied to the steward and sold to the prison officers will be found by referring to Appendix F.

*The Turf.*—Notwithstanding the variableness of the season, the turf has been secured in excellent order. 2,430 tons have been stored, yielding as money value of 1,093*l.* 10*s.*, and furnishing the prison with a valuable supply of fuel and light. Its consumption is particularized in Appendix G.

*Live Stock.*—The live stock are as follows:—5 horses, 24 milch cows, 1 pure North Devon bull, 1 three-year old, 6 two-year olds, 15 yearlings, 15 calves, and 104 pigs.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

W. Morrish, *Governor.*

*To the Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

# APPENDIX TO GOVERNOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1855.

Appendix (A.) Statement of Reception and Removal of Prisoners.
„ (A 2.) Classification of Convicts.
„ (B.) Distribution of Time.
„ (C.) Statement of Work by Shoemakers, Tailors, Washers, &c.
„ (D.) Value of Work executed by Artificers.
„ (E.) Statement of Farm-work performed by Convicts.
„ (F.) Statement of Farm Produce sold or supplied to Prison.
„ (G.) Statement of Quantity of Peat consumed in Prison.
„ (H.) Statement of Quantity of Gas manufactured and consumed.
„ (I.) Return of Daily Employment of Prisoners.
„ (K.) Statement of Offences and Punishments.
„ (L.) Statement of Expenditure in the Year.

(A. —ANNUAL STATEMENT of the REMOVAL of CONVICTS to and from the above Establishment, between 1st Jan. and 31st Dec. 1855.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| On the 1st January 1855— | | | |
| The Number of Convicts in Dartmoor Prison | | | 1,053 |
| Received during the year from— | | | |
| Convict Prisons | Millbank | 207 | |
| | Parkhurst | 1 | |
| | Pentonville | 19 | |
| | Portland | 10 | |
| | Portsmouth | 81 | |
| | | | 318 |
| Convict Hulk | "Stirling Castle" | 100 | |
| | | | 100 |
| County & Borough Prisons under Contract with Government. | Wakefield | 56 | |
| | Preston | 7 | |
| | Leeds | 6 | |
| | Leicester | 19 | |
| | Northampton | 5 | |
| | Bath | 4 | |
| | Reading | 4 | |
| | Bedford | 8 | |
| | Perth | 4 | |
| | | | 113 |
| County and Borough Prison (Exeter) | | 1 | |
| Lunatic Asylum (Bethlem) | | 1 | |
| Returned from Licence | | 12 | |
| | | | 14 |
| Total | | | 1,598 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Disposed of during the year, by— | | | |
| Transfers to Convict Prisons. | Millbank | 8 | |
| | Pentonville | 2 | |
| | Portsmouth | 1 | |
| | | | 11 |
| Transfers to | "Stirling Castle" Convict Hulk | 33 | |
| | | | 33 |
| Embarkations | Western Australia (Public Works) | 44 | |
| | Ditto (Ticket of Leave) | 31 | |
| | Bermuda | 16 | |
| | | | 91 |
| Removals | Lunatic Asylum (Bethlem) | 1 | |
| | Exeter Gaol | 1 | |
| | | | 2 |
| Pardons | Free | | 2 |
| Licence | Special | 6 | |
| | Medical Grounds | 3 | |
| | On expiration of a term of their Sentence, according to Rule | 486 | |
| | | | 495 |
| Discharged on completion of Sentence | | | 1 |
| Escapes | | | 2 |
| Deaths | | | 24 |
| Numbers remaining 31st December 1855 | | | 937 |
| Total | | | 1,598 |

(A 2.)—STATEMENT showing the CLASSIFICATION of CONVICTS received during the year 1855, from the Prisons under mentioned. Governor's Report.

| Prisons. | Number in each Class. | | | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1. | 2. | 3. | |
| Millbank | 186 | 9 | 12 | 207 |
| Parkhurst | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Pentonville | 15 | 1 | 3 | 19 |
| Portland | 8 | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| Portsmouth | 55 | 14 | 12 | 81 |
| "Stirling Castle" Convict Hulk | 74 | 26 | — | 100 |
| Wakefield | 26 | 20 | 10 | 56 |
| Preston | 3 | 2 | 2 | 7 |
| Leeds | 6 | — | — | 6 |
| Leicester | 8 | 7 | 4 | 19 |
| Northampton | 5 | — | — | 5 |
| Bath | 3 | 1 | — | 4 |
| Reading | 4 | — | — | 4 |
| Perth | 3 | 1 | — | 4 |
| Bedford | 3 | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| Licences revoked | — | — | — | 12 |
| Exeter | — | — | — | 1 |
| Bethlem Hospital | — | — | — | 1 |
| Total received | | | | 545 |

Governor's Report.

(B.)—DISTRIBUTION of TIME, in Summer and Winter.

| | Summer. | | | | Winter. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | From | To | Hours. | Min. | From | To | Hours. | Min. |
| Prisoners rise, wash, clean Cells, &c. | 5.0 | 6.0 | 1 | 0 | 5.45 | 6.40 | 0 | 55 |
| Breakfast | 6.0 | 6.25 | 0 | 25 | 6.40 | 6.55 | 0 | 15 |
| Prayers, and proceeding to and from Chapel | 6.25 | 6.55 | 0 | 30 | 6.55 | 7.25 | 0 | 30 |
| Labour, including Parades, &c. | 6.55 | 12.0 | 5 | 5 | 7.25 | 12.0 | 4 | 35 |
| Dinner | 12.0 | 1.5 | 1 | 5 | 12.0 | 1.5 | 1 | 5 |
| Labour, including Parades, &c. | 1.5 | 5.30 | 4 | 25 | 1.5 | 4.35 | 3 | 30 |
| Cleaning, &c., on return from Work | 5.30 | 5.45 | 0 | 15 | 4.35 | 5.5 | 0 | 30 |
| Evening Prayers | 5.45 | 6.15 | 0 | 30 | 5.5 | 5.20 | 0 | 15 |
| Supper | 6.15 | 6.45 | 0 | 30 | 5.20 | 5.50 | 0 | 30 |
| Hair-cutting, Shaving, &c., Reading, &c., till Bed time | 6.45 | 8.0 | 1 | 15 | 5.50 | 8.0 | 2 | 10 |
| Total | - - | - - | 15 | 0 | - - | - - | 14 | 15 |

ABSTRACT.

| | Summer. | Winter. |
|---|---|---|
| | h. m. | h. m. |
| Hours for Labour | 9.30 | 8. 5 |
| Meal Hours | 2. 0 | 1.50 |
| Prayers | 1. 0 | 0.45 |
| In-door Occupations | 2.30 | 3.35 |
| Total | 15.0 | 14.15 |

(C.)—Statement of Work performed by Shoemakers, Tailors, Washers, Bookbinders, and Oakum Pickers, during the Year 1855. Governor's Report.

| Description. | Rate. | Amount. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | *s.* *d.* | £ *s.* *d.* | £ *s.* *d.* |
| ***Shoemakers.*** | | | |
| 139 Pairs of Half Wellington Boots - made at | 5 0 | 34 15 0 | |
| 104 „ Blucher Boots - - - „ | 5 0 | 26 0 0 | |
| 750 „ Shoes - - - - „ | 2 0 | 75 0 0 | |
| 47 „ Boots, for deformed feet „ | 3 6 | 8 4 6 | |
| 776 „ Boots, bottomed - - „ | 2 3 | 87 6 0 | |
| 2,317 „ Ditto, repaired - - „ | 0 9 | 86 17 9 | |
| 415 „ Shoes, bottomed - - „ | 1 2 | 24 4 2 | |
| 757 „ Ditto, repaired - - „ | 0 6 | 18 18 6 | |
| 630 „ Boots (New) - - „ | 3 6 | 110 5 0 | |
| | | | 471 10 11 |
| ***Tailors.*** | | | |
| 1,397 Pairs of Drab Trousers - - made at | 1 0 | 69 17 0 | |
| 1,090 Ditto Jackets - - - - „ | 1 0 | 54 10 0 | |
| 790 Drab Vests - - - - - „ | 0 6 | 19 15 0 | |
| 189 Pairs of Fustian Trousers - - „ | 2 9 | 25 19 9 | |
| 218 Fustian Jackets - - - „ | 2 6 | 27 5 0 | |
| 216 Ditto Vests - - - - „ | 1 2 | 12 12 0 | |
| 2,003 Flannel Shirts - - - „ | 0 6 | 50 4 0 | |
| 1,107 Pairs of Flannel Drawers - - „ | 0 6 | 27 3 6 | |
| 1,567 Cotton Shirts - - - „ | 0 7 | 45 14 1 | |
| 537 Kit and Peat Bags - - - „ | 0 4 | 8 19 0 | |
| 6 Cooks' Jackets, &c. - - „ | 1 3 | 0 7 6 | |
| 2 Infirmary Sheets - - - „ | 1 4 | 0 2 8 | |
| 2,181 Drab Jackets lined and repaired „ | 0 6 | 54 10 1 | |
| 1,073 Drab Vests lined - - - „ | 0 3 | 13 8 3 | |
| 4,028 Pairs of Drab Trowsers lined - „ | 0 6 | 100 14 0 | |
| 10 Prisoners' Beds refitted - - „ | 0 4 | 0 3 4 | |
| 35 Men, on General Repairs at 6*d.* per Day - | - - | 273 0 0 | |
| | | | 784 5 2 |
| ***Washers.*** | | | |
| 56,191 Linen Shirts. | | | |
| 28,591 Flannel ditto. | | | |
| 27,462 Ditto, Drawers. | | | |
| 56,823 Stockings. | | | |
| 52,344 Towels. | | | |
| 53,700 Handkerchiefs. | | | |
| 37,000 Other Garments. | | | |
| 4,090 Blankets. | | | |
| 316,210 Total Articles at 7*d.* per Score - - | - - | - - | 461 2 9 |
| ***Bookbinders.*** | | | |
| Value of Work performed for the Library, School, &c. - - - - - - - | - - | - - | 30 6 0 |
| ***Oakum Pickers.*** | | | |
| cwt. qrs. lbs. | | | |
| 188 2 11 Junk picked into Oakum at £5 per ton - - - - - | - - | - - | 45 2 7 |
| Total - - - - | - - | - £ | 1,792 7 5 |

Governor's Report.

(D.)—STATEMENT of the Value of Work executed by Artificers in the Year 1855.

| Description. | Amount. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | s. | d. |
| To Works within the Prison Walls (excepting Officers' Quarters) - | 461 | 18 | 7¾ |
| Cottages and Barracks (Officers' Quarters) - - - - | 105 | 9 | 11 |
| Military Barracks - - - - - - - - | 6 | 13 | 8 |
| Superior Officers' Quarters - - - - - - | 249 | 14 | 0¼ |
| Farmstead, &c. - - - - - - - - | 20 | 16 | 2 |
| General incidentals - - - - - - - | 270 | 7 | 6 |
| Furniture and Fittings - - - - - - | 27 | 14 | 4¾ |
| Quarry - - - - - - - - | 163 | 15 | 6 |
| General Repairs to Tools - - - - - - | 114 | 6 | 11 |
| Works outside the Walls - - - - - - | 601 | 6 | 9¼ |
| Total - - - £ | 2,022 | 3 | 6 |

Governor's Report.

(E.)—Statement of Farm-work performed at Dartmoor in the Year 1855.

| Description. | Rate. | | | Amount. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. |
| 4 Acres trenched 2 feet deep | 7 | 0 | 0 | 28 | 0 | 0 |
| 52 „ drained 3 feet 9 inches deep | 6 | 0 | 0 | 312 | 0 | 0 |
| 63 „ double dug | 2 | 10 | 0 | 157 | 10 | 0 |
| 47 „ single dug, twice | 2 | 4 | 0 | 103 | 8 | 0 |
| 47 „ limed and dug | 1 | 5 | 0 | 58 | 15 | 0 |
| 90 „ single dug | 1 | 2 | 0 | 99 | 0 | 0 |
| 52 „ top-dressed with lime and manure | 0 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 16 | 0 |
| 39 „ sown with oats, bere, flax, and grass seed | 0 | 5 | 0 | 9 | 15 | 0 |
| 51½ „ sown with vegetables and green crops | 0 | 12 | 0 | 30 | 18 | 0 |
| 51½ „ hoed three times | 0 | 10 | 0 | 25 | 15 | 0 |
| 53½ „ hay cut and secured | 0 | 9 | 6 | 25 | 8 | 3 |
| 39 „ bere, oats, and flax harvested | 0 | 9 | 0 | 17 | 11 | 8 |
| 15 Tons of rushes and heath cut for litter | 0 | 16 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 |
| 51½ Acres green crops stored | 0 | 8 | 0 | 20 | 12 | 0 |
| 3,036 Yards stone wall built 6 ft. high, coped with sod | 0 | 2 | 0 | 303 | 12 | 0 |
| 3,639 „ old walls repaired | 0 | 0 | 3 | 45 | 9 | 9 |
| 1,824 „ old roads repaired | 0 | 1 | 3 | 114 | 0 | 0 |
| 363 „ paved guttering | 0 | 0 | 8 | 12 | 2 | 0 |
| 440 „ tramway repaired | 0 | 0 | 6 | 11 | 0 | 0 |
| 2,430 Tons turf cut and secured | 0 | 9 | 0 | 1,093 | 10 | 0 |
| Total | | | £ | 2,488 | 2 | 0 |

Abstract of (C.), (D.), and (E.)

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| (C.) | 1,792 | 7 | 5 |
| (D.) | 2,022 | 3 | 6 |
| (E.) | 2,488 | 2 | 0 |
| Total | £6,302 | 12 | 11 |

Governor's Report.

(F.)—STATEMENT of FARM PRODUCE sold or supplied to the Steward in the Year 1855.

| Articles. | Rate. | Amount. |
|---|---|---|
| | *s.* *d.* | £ *s.* *d.* |
| 9,765 gallons of milk - - - - - | 0 6 | 244 2 6 |
| 35 cwt. of celery - - - - - - | 15 0 | 26 0 0 |
| 138 cwt. 2 qrs. cabbage - - - - - | 3 10 | 26 10 11 |
| 239 cwt. carrots - - - - - - | 3 3 | 38 16 9 |
| 59 cwt. 1 qr. turnips - - - - - - | 3 0 | 8 17 9 |
| 226 cwt. 1 qr. potatoes - - - - - | 5 9½ | 65 10 5 |
| 70 cwt. parsnips - - - - - - | 3 6 | 12 5 0 |
| 2,430 tons of peat - - - - - - | 9 0 | 1,093 10 0 |
| 3,042 lbs. of butter sold to officers and others - - - | 1 0 | 152 9 0 |
| Vegetables, ditto - - - - | — | 12 15 11 |
| 302½ gallons of milk, ditto - - - - | 1 0 | 15 2 6 |
| Pork, ditto - - - - | — | 198 16 9 |
| 48 live pigs, ditto - - - - | — | 104 15 3 |
| 6 calves, ditto - - - - | — | 8 8 6 |
| 11 fat cows, ditto - - - - | — | 197 14 6 |
| 2 steers, ditto - - - - | — | 25 4 0 |
| | £ | 2,231 4 9 |

(G.)—STATEMENT showing the Quantity of PEAT consumed in these Prisons for the Twelve Months ending 31 December 1855.

| Months. | Gasworks. | | | | No. 1 Prison. Cookhouse, Tailors' Store, and Dispensary. | | | No. 2 Prison. | | | No. 3 Prison. | | | No. 4 Prison. | | | Chapel. | | | Mess and Night Officers' Room. | | | | Guard Room. | | | Washhouse. | | | Kitchen. | | | Porter's Lodge. | | | | Piggery and Farm. | | | Officers. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | tons | cwts | qrs | lbs | tons | cwts | qrs | tons | cwts | qrs | tons | cwts | qrs | tons | cwts | qrs | tons | cwts | qrs | tons | cwts | qrs | lbs | tons | cwts | qrs | tons | cwts | qrs | tons | cwts | qrs | tons | cwts | qrs | lbs | tons | cwts | qrs | tons | cwts | qrs | lbs |
| Jan. - | 84 | 8 | 0 | 14 | 52 | 5 | 2 | 17 | 12 | 3 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 15 | 18 | 3 | 13 | 7 | 3 | 16 | 11 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 11 | 0 | . | . | . | 49 | 14 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 11 | 3 | 0 |
| Feb. - | 75 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 42 | 1 | 2 | 13 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 11 | 1 | 13 | 7 | 3 | 7 | 17 | 1 | 12 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | . | . | . | 24 | 16 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 14 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Mar. - | 70 | 18 | 3 | 0 | 32 | 14 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | . | . | . | 0 | 17 | 0 | 14 | 4 | 3 | 10 | 1 | 3 | 14 | 2 | 6 | 3 | . | . | . | . | . | . | 2 | 14 | 0 | 21 | 5 | 10 | 2 | 4 | 19 | 3 | 14 |
| April | 66 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 53 | 1 | 2 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 6 | 7 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 12 | 3 | . | . | . | 1 | 18 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 19 | 2 | 2 | 19 | 2 | 0 |
| May - | 45 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 20 | 8 | 0 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 5 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 16 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 3 | . | . | . | 24 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 12 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 14 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 0 |
| June | 27 | 19 | 1 | 14 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 1 | 14 | 0 | . | . | . | . | . | . | 0 | 12 | 3 | 0 | . | . | . | . | . | . | 11 | 1 | 0 | . | . | . | | 0 | 17 | 0 | . | . | . | |
| July - | 2 | 4 | 2 | 14 | 12 | 6 | 2 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 0 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1 | . | . | . | 26 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 11 | 0 | 12 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Aug. - | 33 | 0 | 3 | 14 | 17 | 17 | 0 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 0 | 12 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | . | . | . | 33 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 16 | 9 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 0 |
| Sept. | 35 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 5 | 0 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 0 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 3 | . | . | . | 21 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 11 | 0 | 1 | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| Oct. - | 49 | 15 | 2 | 0 | 13 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | . | . | . | 0 | 17 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | . | . | . | 16 | 17 | 2 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 16 | 0 | 1 | 18 | 1 | 0 |
| Nov. - | 65 | 17 | 0 | 14 | 21 | 5 | 0 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 2 | 19 | 2 | 3 | 12 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 19 | 2 | . | . | . | 22 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Dec. - | 75 | 13 | 2 | 0 | 22 | 10 | 2 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 5 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 19 | 2 | . | . | . | 28 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Totals | 631 | 18 | 1 | 14 | 304 | 15 | 2 | 34 | 8 | 2 | 13 | 7 | 3 | 30 | 3 | 2 | 56 | 2 | 0 | 65 | 18 | 1 | 14 | 21 | 13 | 2 | 0 | 12 | 3 | 262 | 5 | 0 | 12 | 18 | 0 | 21 | 33 | 9 | 1 | 39 | 17 | 2 | 14 |

| | Tons | cwts | qrs | lbs |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Grand Total - - - | 1,508 | 10 | 1 | 7 |
| Supplied to Officers - - | 190 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Quantity of Peat consumed | 1,698 | 10 | 1 | 7 |

Governor's Report.

(H.)—List showing the Quantity of Gas manufactured and consumed in these Prisons, for the Twelve Months ending 31 December 1855.

| Date. | Quantity of Peat consumed in making Gas. | Total Quantity of Peat consumed in Gas, and heating Retorts. | Quantity of Gas Manufactured. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1855. | Cwts. | tons cwts qrs lbs. | Cubic feet. |
| January | 880 | 84 8 0 14 | 266,000 |
| February | 614 | 75 6 2 0 | 233,320 |
| March | 556 | 70 18 3 0 | 211,280 |
| April | 540 | 66 10 2 0 | 205,200 |
| May | 480 | 45 0 3 0 | 182,400 |
| June | 298 | 27 19 1 14 | 113,240 |
| July* | — | 2 4 2 14 | — |
| August | 272 | 33 0 3 14 | 103,360 |
| September | 384 | 35 2 3 0 | 145,920 |
| October | 528 | 49 15 2 0 | 200,640 |
| November | 635 | 65 17 0 14 | 241,300 |
| December | 723 | 75 33 2 0 | 274,740 |
| Total | 5,910 | 631 18 1 14 | 2,177,400 |

Cost of Manufacture.

| Description. | Rate. | Amount. | Amount. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | *s.* *d* | £ *s.* *d.* | £ *s.* *d.* |
| Labour | - - | - - - | 219 11 10 |
| 2 retorts, 98 cwt. 2 qrs. 21 lbs. | 11 6 | 56 14 11 | |
| 4 connecting pipes, 4 cwt. 0 qrs. 16 lbs. | 15 6 | 3 4 3 | |
| Repairs to fire places, brickwork, &c. | - - | 15 0 6 | |
| 2 chaldrons of coke | 21 0 | 2 2 0 | |
| 631 tons 18 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs. of Peat | 9 0 | 284 7 3 | |
| 66 cube yards of lime | 6 0 | 52 16 0 | |
| 5 cwt. of iron used for crates | 14 3 | 3 11 3 | |
| | | | 417 16 2 |
| | | | 637 7 2 |
| Value of product: | | | |
| 73 tons 17 cwt. charcoal | 30 0 | 110 15 6 | |
| 63 tons 3 cwt. ashes | - - | 94 14 6 | |
| 66 cube yards lime at half cost | 8 0 | 26 8 0 | |
| 8 tons old iron (burnt) | - - | 2 13 4 | |
| | | | 234 11 4 |
| Total cost | - - | - - - £ | 402 15 10† |

* Gasworks stopped for repairs.

† Divided by 2,177,400 cubic feet of gas, gives a cost of, per 1,000 ft. cube, about 3*s.* 8$\frac{3}{8}$*d.*

Memorandum.

| | £ *s.* *d.* |
|---|---|
| To manufacture the above quantity of gas from the best coals would require 218 tons, which, at 35*s.* per ton would amount to the sum of | 381 10 0 |
| Amount as above for peat | 284 7 3 |
| Difference in favour of peat | £97 2 9 |

(I.)—Return of the Employment of Convicts in Dartmoor Prison, on the 16th August 1855. Governor's Report.

| Occupations. | No. of Men. |
|---|---|
| Carpenters | 8 |
| Smiths and fitters | 4 |
| Painters | 3 |
| Plumbers | 1 |
| Masons | 6 |
| Stonecutters | 9 |
| Bricklayers | 1 |
| Plasterers | 1 |
| Slaters | 2 |
| Tinmen | 2 |
| Bookbinders | 1 |
| Quarrymen | 7 |
| Labourers, learners, cleaners, and light-labour men | 133 |
| Shoemakers | 26 |
| Tailors | 27 |
| Washers | 17 |
| Bakers | 10 |
| Cooks | 22 |
| Agricultural Labourers | 700 |
| Sick, school, and under punishment | 59 |
| Total | 1,039 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Number of working days | 310 | |
| Daily average number of men effective for labour | | 870 |
| Ditto ditto ditto non-effective (being sick, at school, unemployed, &c.) | | 169 |
| | | 1,039 |

Governor's Report.

(K.)—STATEMENT of OFFENCES and PUNISHMENT during the Year 1855.

| Number of Offenders punished. | | | Number of Men not punished. | Number of Offences for which actual Punishment was inflicted. | | | | Total Number of Admonitions. | Averaged daily Number of Men in Prison. | Total No. of Prisoners during the Year. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| By Director. | By Governor. | Total. | | By Director. | By Governor. | Total. | Average No. of Offences daily. | | | |
| 52* | 394 | 446 | 1152 | 63 | 1074 | 1137 | 3·1 (or 0·3 per cent.) | 261 | 1039 | 1598 |

* Corporal Punishment, 11.

(L.)—STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE of DARTMOOR PRISON for the Year ending 31 March 1856.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Salaries of principal officers and clerks | 3,082 | 0 | 3 |
| Wages of subordinate officers and servants | 7,093 | 19 | 7 |
| Salaries and Wages of Manufacturing or Labour Department | 803 | 19 | 7 |
| Rations for officers and allowances in lieu thereof | 1,590 | 12 | 8 |
| Uniforms for officers and servants | 717 | 4 | 3 |
| Victualling prisoners | 14,217 | 8 | 3 |
| Clothing, &c. for prisoners | 2,806 | 10 | 3 |
| Bedding for prisoners | 34 | 13 | 9 |
| Medicines, surgical instruments, &c. | 172 | 11 | 0 |
| Medical comforts (extras for the sick) | 195 | 7 | 10 |
| Clothing and travelling expenses of prisoners on their liberation | 1,553 | 1 | 10½ |
| Gratuities to convicts | 3,591 | 13 | 7 |
| Furniture and fittings | 73 | 5 | 6 |
| Kitchen utensils, crockery, cutlery, &c. | 10 | 19 | 6 |
| Fuel and light for general purposes | 2,554 | 18 | 4 |
| Buildings, hulks, and ordinary repairs | 1,408 | 5 | 10 |
| Soap, scouring, and cleaning articles | 135 | 14 | 3 |
| Brushes, brooms, and mops, | 59 | 7 | 11 |
| Funeral expenses, inquests, &c. | 35 | 19 | 6 |
| Various small disbursements | 421 | 19 | 6 |
| Rent, rates, and taxes | 399 | 13 | 2 |
| Total | 40,959 | 6 | 4½ |
| Deduct amount of sundry receipts, and Value of Productive Labour | 1,362 | 8 | 0 |
| Net expenditure | £39,596 | 18 | 4½ |

## II.

## CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN, *Dartmoor Prison, December* 18, 1855.

THE year having now nearly come to its close, it becomes my duty to lay before you such a statement of our proceedings for the year as is usual at this season. Chaplain's Report.

It is hoped that, in despite of many defects on our part, what has been done in the chaplain's department will be found to have been, to some extent, for the welfare of the prisoners and the advantage of the establishment.

Divine service is held every day in the infirmary of the prison throughout the year, and a sermon is preached at each service. On Sundays there are two services, morning and afternoon, with sermons; one of these being conducted by the assistant chaplain, and in the afternoon Divine service is conducted by him in the prison chapel. Morning and evening prayers throughout the year, with a short lecture twice a-week, are also under his charge; added to which, the inspection of the prisoners' letters, and the care of the character book, are also placed under Mr. Batchelor's judicious management. In the manufacturing wards, there are the same services held morning and evening as are celebrated in the chapel.

The sick are visited daily in their beds. During the hospital services the utmost attention is paid by the men. These services have been for the last four years seasons of peculiar enjoyment. The cleanliness and good order of the wards, the attention of the officers, the ready opportunities for having conversation with any sick men, the grateful feelings expressed for kindnesses shown, are all peculiar to our position, and we cannot but be sometimes struck and affected by the attenuated arm of some poor invalid stretched out from his bed to reach his Bible, and find the passage referred to in the discourse. Often has the portion of Scripture for the discourse been named by the dying man himself as that which would be desirable to him, and it has been generally one suggestive of his own situation as a sinner before God, and on questioning him afterwards, it has been seen that his interest in the portion chosen has been real. We have hopeful instances, too, that much good has been done to the temporary sick, while they have witnessed the support which has been given to a dying penitent, and the peace he has found in a reconciled God. Many a hard heart has, we believe, softened before such a death-bed, and the recovered man has carried away a knowledge of his own heart's wickedness, and the remedy to be sought, which he had not before acquired.

The duties performed by the chaplain may be thus enumerated. He visits the infirmary three times daily, reads prayers to the as-

Chaplain's Report.

sembled patients, and concludes with an extempore sermon from some suitable portion of Holy Scripture; he afterwards reads to the dying at their bedside. He conducts Divine service every Sunday morning in the prison chapel, and in the evening meets a large Bible class, which he formed some years ago. Bible classes are also conducted by him whenever practicable during the week nights, in different wards. He visits the punishment cells daily, and when prisoners receive their licences, assembles them for advice and admonition; an address is given to those men who are about being transferred to another prison, to those received hither, and to those who are embarking on convict ships. He also examines the candidates for the Holy Communion, and has a service in the chapel for their use some little time before the day fixed for the solemnization. He makes frequent visits to the school, and after inspecting the general instruction going on, conducts the Scripture lesson, with which the school concludes He has daily service in the manufacturing wards, and a weekly lecture to the families of the warders.

The school duties are producing their usually good effects upon those men who are availing themselves of them. We often hear thankful acknowledgments from many respecting the assistance thus charitably given them of one half day weekly, by which education the early errors of youth may, in many cases, be remedied, and motives to good conduct laid down in their minds by the principles inculcated. Many men who have left the prison write to us that by the sound, plain education they received, they have been able to obtain situations, which, but for those advantages, they would have lost. School training has, in numberless instances, (under the Divine blessing), given a new direction to their minds. Some of them promise me that they will attend evening schools after their discharge on licence, and thus complete what they began in prison, adding a promise that their children also shall be sent to school, even if they have to pinch to raise the money. These promises are brought to the remembrance of those who are leaving on licence, and enforced as often as possible by subsequent letters, and letters are received afterwards from them, which justify the reference I have now made, and give grateful mention of the liberality of the directors in this respect.

The whole of the masters' time is fully and satisfactorily employed during school hours, and the anxiety they show to work with efficiency on the often impenetrable and hardened material sent them to instruct and mould, would meet your warm approval could you witness it. I do not know of any body of teachers who can excel those you have placed here as the educational staff, where the object sought is a good, moral, sound training for a convict. Their patience and temper, which is under trial every day at school, by being brought in contact with every conceivable variety of mind and character, has in no instance been known to fail. We suffer in the cold weather from a defective system of heating, by which the school is carried on in much discomfort, at a very low chilling temperature, in the coldest climate in the south of England; but notwithstanding these occasional drawbacks, we have not had above half-a-dozen men who have desired to be excused from attendance. The school closes morning and

evening with a Scripture lesson, in which the whole school is divided into three classes, each taken by a master. This is a considerable improvement over the old practice, and decorum and attention are far better observed.

I have dwelt longer than usual on the infirmary and the school, as this prison is fast becoming an invalid establishment, as being a peculiarly fitting locality for the cure of scrofula and cases of early consumption. The large number of able-bodied men being reduced monthly, are replaced by invalids from other prisons.

There are two points connected with these unhappy persons which I beg to submit for your kind consideration.

1. There is a want of some suitable employment for the better educated prisoners, sent out to work upon the marshy lands, an employment to which the well-educated man has been unaccustomed, and from which nothing can be learned. There is nothing but the tailors' and shoemakers' shops open to him as a trade. Could some light and useful craft be set on foot for this class of invalids, it might enable them, when discharged, to earn a partial living, instead of being thrown on their friends for entire support. Letters received from several discharged men, who had been mercantile and other clerks, give a most discouraging account of bad success in seeking employ. No firm of merchants, no public office, will, in general, receive back a man, under ticket of leave, who has once lost their confidence. But if the disabled clerk could have a trade provided for him on which he might fall back after his discharge, he could float upon this acquired help till he had redeemed his character by subsequent good conduct.

2. The other difficulty which I would intrude on your kind patience while stating, refers to the weak-minded men, who are either partially or wholly insane; and the number of these, though already great, is, as may be expected, on the increase.

The excellent system of discipline in Dartmoor Prison, as insuring method, regularity, and exactness in outward things, has frequently lent its aid to the prisoner's mind, and often has the man himself given testimony to its value, but the regulations which enforce discipline and routine, do not contemplate any class of invalids like that adverted to above, and accordingly no provision is made for them by way of exemption. I would submit, that if some relaxation of rule could be allowed on behalf of this increasing body of men, it would relieve the discipline department, while it would gratify a feeling of compassion towards these pitiable persons. In their cases, it may be that a long course of sin has brought on mental as well as bodily ailments, neglect of parents in infancy, or their parents' evil connexions, have brought partial idiotcy on them. Whatever be the cause, it is probable that mental deficiencies vary from eccentricity to positive insanity among many of our inmates. These persons on entering a prison become the butt and tool of their hardened and unfeeling companions; they amuse themselves with the weak men's irritable tempers, which they have purposely provoked, and end by persuading them to insult the officers and break the regulations. Opportunities constantly exist for these practices, without the possi-

Chaplain's Report.

bility of detection by the officers. The poor men are thus brought into the punishment cells, are discharged, and again and again brought back for the same offences without any amendment resulting from the correction. The discipline authorities can do nothing; they ministerially carry out the laws laid down, though the execution may be sometimes painful. For a long time past one-half of the disorderlies thus punished have been men of weak minds, and who, when set free from their cruel disturbers, are, with very little management, exceedingly tractable; often has the kind sympathy of the officer befriended the poor weak invalid, and obtained his release from the governor. The appointment of some authority by which these men's minds could be ascertained, would abate the evil, by placing them in a gang or company by themselves with certain exemptions, as well as disabilities, which would be sufficiently strong to prevent the malingerer feigning their infirmity.

Such a suggestion as the above cannot, I conceive, be accounted as any reflection upon the able medical officers of the institution, it being a question within the observation of any one accustomed to mingle with his fellow men and observe every variety of mind which his duty calls him to mark. By your kindness in listening to the suggestion thrown out, and entertaining it, if you see fit, much suffering would be prevented, and the discipline department relieved.

I would also state that the attempt at classification in the association prison No. 3 of the lower ward, has been successful. The ward was partitioned off two years ago for newly arrived men and those of quiet steady habits who volunteered to enter it. The best proof of the necessity for that classification is, that since its continuance, punishment reports do not come from this division; the men are emulous of the distinction made, and show the sincerity of their professions by avoiding any infraction of the rules. The Sunday evening Bible class has kept up its numbers since the formation of the division, and there is no appearance of any diminution either in the numbers in attendance, or in their daily good conduct. They are found every evening reading the Bible to one another, instructing some unlettered companion, or improving their own minds by quiet study.

The books you have so kindly permitted the chaplain to select for the use of the prisoners, have been generally, though not exclusively, taken from the catalogues of the Tract Society, Wertheim, Nisbet, Seeley, and Hatchard, with occasional selections from the Christian Knowledge Society. The objects I have had in view with prisoners, have neither been an exclusive library on religious subjects, which would not be read by the generality, nor, on the other hand, books of a merely amusing kind, which would be read with too much avidity to a great waste of time, and leave no impression for good upon their minds. To amuse convicts, without seeking for them at the same time positive reformation and instruction, would, I apprehend, be a huge mistake. They have had those subjects and narratives placed before them which have a rich vein of truth running through them. As an example of what is meant, I would allude to the always fresh and pleasing stories and reflections of "Old

Humphrey" and "The Leisure Hour," published by the Tract Society. A reference to the library would go to satisfy you that in attempting to carry out your object in the prison library, and catering for the large variety of convict mind, I have done the best in my power to preserve the middle course, and avoid the faultiness of any extreme. In the selection of the books, I have been guided in some degree by the experience of the schoolmasters as to the books most read and asked for.

On the whole, in concluding my yearly report, I cannot do other than hope that with the machinery you have been pleased to lay down for the great work of reaching, if it may be, the minds and hearts of the prisoners, the Divine blessing may make all effectual to a thorough and unfeigned reformation, and that your benevolent wishes and efforts to see them restored as good members of society, "redeeming the time" which is past, "working" for the future diligently "with their hands the thing which is good," and "providing," for themselves and their families, "things honest in the sight of all men," may surely come to pass.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your very faithful servant,
J. DOBIE, *Chaplain.*

*The Chairman and Directors*
*of Convict Prisons.*

# III.

## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER.

*Infirmary, Dartmoor Prison,*
*January* 1, 1856.

Medical Officer's Report.

GENTLEMEN,

IN this, my fourth annual Report, I feel happy in being able to present a very satisfactory account of the sanitary condition of this establishment, and to show a considerable reduction in the sickness and mortality of the past year. The deaths only amount to 24; and this decrease in the mortality, as compared with previous years, is the more remarkable from the increase that has taken place in the invalid class. It will be seen by reference to the subjoined table, that out of 545 prisoners received during the year, not more than about 20 were able-bodied men.

GENERAL HEALTH of Convicts on Reception, confined in Dartmoor Prison, for the Year ending 31 December 1855.

| State of Health. | Remaining on the 1st January 1855. | Received since. | Total. | Discharged. | Remaining as per Inspection, 1st January 1856. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Healthy | 266 | 6 | 272 | 98 | 174 |
| Ditto, lost hand | 2 | — | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Ditto, lost arm | 7 | 3 | 10 | 4 | 6 |
| Ditto, lost leg | 4 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 6 |
| Ditto, lost eye | 8 | — | 8 | 5 | 3 |
| Ditto, lame | 31 | 16 | 47 | 1 | 46 |
| Ditto, ruptured | 35 | 22 | 57 | 24 | 33 |
| Ditto, aged | 13 | 1 | 14 | 11 | 3 |
| Ditto, sight impaired | 5 | — | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| Delicate | 110 | 10 | 120 | 45 | 75 |
| Ditto, lost leg | — | 1 | 1 | — | 1 |
| Ditto, lost eye | 6 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 4 |
| Ditto, lost arm | — | 1 | 1 | — | 1 |
| Ditto, lame | 22 | 32 | 54 | 2 | 52 |
| Ditto, ruptured | 20 | 25 | 45 | 18 | 27 |
| Ditto, aged | 22 | 16 | 38 | 19 | 19 |
| Ditto, sight impaired | 8 | — | 8 | 4 | 4 |
| Infirm | 72 | 4 | 76 | 37 | 39 |
| Ditto, aged | — | 19 | 19 | 1 | 18 |
| Rheumatism | 22 | 11 | 33 | 19 | 14 |
| Ophthalmia | 10 | 7 | 17 | 8 | 9 |
| Pleuritis | 2 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| Hepatitis | 2 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| Chronic bronchitis | 7 | 15 | 22 | 9 | 13 |
| Podagra | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| Carried forward | | | | | |

General Health of Convicts on Reception—*continued.*

Medical Officer's Report.

| State of Health. | Remaining on the 1st January 1855. | Received since. | Total. | Discharged. | Remaining as per Inspection, 1st January 1856. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brought forward - - | | | | | |
| Hæmoptysis - - - | 3 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| Hæmaturia - - - | 3 | — | 3 | 3 | — |
| Hæmorrhois - - - | 4 | — | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| Chest disease - - - | 57 | 19 | 76 | 53 | 23 |
| Paralysis - - - - | 8 | 4 | 12 | 6 | 6 |
| Dyspepsia - - - - | 1 | 9 | 10 | 1 | 9 |
| Morbus cordis - - - | 38 | 37 | 75 | 41 | 34 |
| Epilepsia - - - - | 25 | 25 | 50 | 22 | 28 |
| Cephalalgia - - - | 3 | — | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Asthma - - - - | 13 | — | 13 | 12 | 1 |
| Chronic diarrhœa - - | 3 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 1 |
| Mental disease - - - | 65 | 40 | 105 | 22 | 83 |
| Debilitas - - - - | 44 | 75 | 119 | 35 | 84 |
| Phthisis - - - - | 15 | 22 | 37 | 19 | 18 |
| Hydrocele - - - - | 12 | — | 12 | 10 | 2 |
| Scrofula - - - - | 52 | 58 | 110 | 71 | 39 |
| Stricture - - - - | 6 | 5 | 11 | 9 | 2 |
| Affection of bladder - - | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Ulcus - - - - | 4 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 5 |
| Fistula - - - - | 4 | — | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| Chronic jaundice - - | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | — |
| Ditto tarsitis - - - | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | — |
| Varicose veins - - - | 10 | 7 | 17 | — | 71 |
| Tumour - - - - | — | 1 | 1 | — | 1 |
| Diseased joints - - - | 3 | 1 | 4 | — | 4 |
| Injuries - - - - | — | 5 | 5 | 1 | 4 |
| Spinal disease - - - | — | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Disease of tibia - - - | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | — |
| Diabetis - - - - | — | 1 | 1 | — | 1 |
| Purpura - - - - | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | — |
| Erysipelas - - - - | — | 1 | 1 | — | 1 |
| Lepra - - - - | — | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Syphilis - - - - | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | — |
| Contracted chest - - | — | 1 | 1 | — | 1 |
| Diseased scrotum - - | — | 7 | 7 | — | 7 |
| Abscess - - - - | — | 3 | 3 | 3 | — |
| Diseased skin of leg - - | — | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Porrigo capitis - - - | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | — |
| Pneumonia - - - | — | 1 | 1 | — | 1 |
| Totals - - - | 1,053 | 545 | 1,598 | 661 | 937 |

The description of invalids has not materially varied from those we have been in the habit of receiving, the greater number being in a delicate state of health or labouring under some bodily or mental defect, but they were generally of the class for whom this place is well adapted.

Chest diseases, as usual, occupy the most prominent place, and although some of the phthisical cases were rather too far advanced to be much benefited, I have no reason to believe that the change has ever been attended with injury: on the contrary, that very insidious

Medical Officer's Report.

disease has frequently appeared for a time to be retarded in its fatal course. The mortality has been almost exclusively confined to those affected with tubercular disease of the lungs; and although a few men admitted into the infirmary on reception remained under treatment till death, some labouring under the incipient stages of the same disease, viz., phthisis, so far improved both in health and strength, as to be able for the usual labour on the bogs.

Scrofula, with its various complications, is a very common disease amongst prisoners; 58 cases have been received here during the year. When in a simple form, or merely confined to the glands of the neck, the disease has commonly proved very tractable, even when the general health was much impaired, provided the patients were fit for some easy out-door employment. The disease has, however, at times been conjoined with other affections, particularly those of the respiratory organs and abdominal viscera, which from the first precluded much hope of permanent restoration to health.

The cases of heart disease have been rather numerous, but generally only functional, arising from impairment of the nervous system, the symptoms commonly abating as the health of the men improved.

Epilepsy is one of the diseases which appears to be benefited by a change to this place, as the fits have, in many instances, either abated in frequency and violence, or altogether disappeared.

Debility, feebleness, and old age were the causes of removal hither in 116 cases, and as a large proportion laboured under great physical weakness from diseases of long standing, they could only be classed as permanent invalids. The change of climate has, however, frequently been attended with much benefit when the weakness was the result of acute disease or the depressing effects of long confinement.

Rupture and various bodily defects, such as loss of limb, lameness, and impaired vision, constitute a considerable number of the cases of invalids received during the year, and, when added to those remaining in the establishment at the close of the previous year, amounted to 264.

Many of those men are incapacitated for labour requiring much bodily exertion; and a difficulty has sometimes been experienced in finding suitable and profitable employment for them, but the oakum picking which has lately been introduced appears to answer remarkably well, and I think some other description of in-door labour might be advantageously introduced for such men, as well as for the aged and delicate, who are either unable to walk to the moor or to withstand the exposure when there, especially as those classes are gradually increasing.

Mental affections have been rather on the increase during the year, the number of admissions being 40, which added to those remaining at the close of 1854, give a total of 105. Such cases must, at all times, be a source of anxiety to those in charge, as even when the malady is in its mildest form, such as eccentricity or incoherency, they are liable to become excited and violent when least expected, and necessarily require the most careful supervision.

Medical Officer's Report.

We have hitherto been very fortunate in avoiding any serious accidents, notwithstanding the conduct of these men has often been dangerous to themselves and others. I am, therefore, of opinion that separation from the sane is desirable, not only as a means of bringing them more immediately under the observation of the officers, but also of preserving them from irritation and annoyance, to which it is to be feared they are sometimes subjected.

The situation and nature of the employment at this place appears to me well suited for such men, and with a little management might be adapted to their several capacities. Although I can with confidence state that the warders are most careful and painstaking in the discharge of their arduous duties, still it might be advisable to place the weak-minded prisoners under officers having some experience in the management and peculiarities of the insane, and to have a few well conducted prisoners in each gang to assist these officers.

The foregoing remarks and table giving the causes of removal to this prison will be sufficient to show that the various diseases and bodily defects must subject the invalids to many changes, as regards the state of their health and consequent capacity for employment. Malingering is much less common amongst the prisoners than might be supposed: and it is pleasing to witness the signs of willing industry exhibited by many, even of the aged and delicate.

The diet of invalids is a subject of much importance, for owing to the great number who are in a weakly state on reception, it becomes necessary to adopt a rather liberal scale of diet, to enable them to regain their accustomed vigour.

Besides the usual professional visits to the sick, the prisoners are allowed every facility for making me acquainted with any complaints of a medical nature, such as the work being too laborious or injurious to their health, the diet being insufficient, &c. &c. Those cases are entered in the medical reference book, and the applicants are brought before me, at stated times, for examination, to enable me to report, for the information of the governor, any changes that may be deemed necessary.

The alteration in the cesspools and other measures which have been adopted for improving the healthfulness of the establishment have proved beneficial, and the greatest attention has always been paid to keep the different prisons scrupulously clean and well ventilated. The additional means of ventilating the infirmary wards, which were sanctioned some time ago, have now been in operation upwards of two months, and appear to answer the purpose very well, especially in cold and boisterous weather, when the windows cannot be opened

Medical Officer's Report.

## Hospital Return for the Year ending 31 December 1855.

| Diseases. | Cases remaining 1st January 1855. | Cases admitted during the year. | Total. | Discharged. | | | | | Cases remaining 1st January 1856. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Died. | Licensed. | To Labour. | Removed. | Total discharged. | |
| Febris | 1 | 18 | 19 | – | – | 19 | – | 19 | – |
| Rheumatismus | 4 | 45 | 49 | – | – | 45 | 1 | 46 | 3 |
| Phlogosis | 4 | 16 | 20 | – | – | 19 | – | 19 | 1 |
| Ophthalmia | 2 | 12 | 14 | – | – | 13 | – | 13 | 1 |
| Cynanchi Tonsillais | – | 7 | 7 | – | – | 6 | – | 6 | 1 |
| Pleuritis | – | 5 | 5 | – | – | 3 | – | 3 | 2 |
| Pneumonia | – | 7 | 7 | 1 | – | 3 | – | 4 | 3 |
| Nephritis | 1 | – | 1 | – | – | 1 | – | 1 | – |
| Bronchitis | 3 | 41 | 44 | 3 | 1 | 39 | 1 | 44 | – |
| Erysipelas | – | 6 | 6 | – | – | 6 | – | 6 | – |
| Eruptio | – | 12 | 12 | – | – | 11 | – | 11 | 1 |
| Hæmoptysis | 1 | 5 | 6 | 1 | – | 5 | – | 6 | – |
| Hæmatemesis | – | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| Hæmorrhoids | – | 8 | 8 | – | – | 7 | 1 | 8 | – |
| Catarrhus | 14 | 742 | 756 | 4 | 3 | 732 | 2 | 741 | 15 |
| Dyspepsia | – | 4 | 4 | – | – | 3 | – | 3 | 1 |
| Morbus Cordis | – | 1 | 1 | – | – | 1 | – | 1 | 1 |
| Epilepsia | 1 | 55 | 56 | – | – | 54 | – | 54 | 2 |
| Cephalalgia | – | 6 | 6 | – | – | 6 | – | 6 | – |
| Colica | – | 5 | 5 | – | – | 5 | – | 5 | – |
| Diarrhœa | 4 | 225 | 229 | 4 | 1 | 216 | 2 | 223 | 6 |
| Diabetes | – | 2 | 2 | – | – | 2 | – | 2 | – |
| Mental Disease | – | 8 | 8 | – | – | 8 | – | 8 | – |
| Phthisis | 2 | 27 | 29 | 6 | 1 | 18 | 1 | 26 | 3 |
| Scrofula | 1 | 26 | 27 | 1 | 2 | 23 | – | 26 | 1 |
| Obstipatio | – | 32 | 32 | – | – | 32 | – | 32 | – |
| Hernia | – | 67 | 67 | – | – | 66 | – | 66 | 1 |
| Pernio | 1 | 11 | 12 | – | – | 12 | – | 12 | – |
| Stricture | – | 5 | 5 | – | – | 5 | – | 5 | – |
| Vulnus | 1 | 5 | 6 | – | – | 6 | – | 6 | – |
| Ulcus | 1 | 56 | 57 | – | – | 51 | – | 51 | 6 |
| Fractura | 2 | – | 2 | – | – | 2 | – | 2 | – |
| Burns and Scalds | 1 | 1 | 2 | – | – | 2 | – | 2 | – |
| Vermes | – | 2 | 2 | – | – | 2 | – | 2 | – |
| Injuries and Sprains | 3 | 89 | 92 | – | 2 | 89 | – | 91 | 1 |
| Debilitas | 1 | 13 | 14 | 1 | – | 9 | 1 | 11 | 3 |
| Varicose Veins | – | 1 | 1 | – | – | 1 | – | 1 | – |
| Lupus | – | 5 | 5 | – | – | 4 | 1 | 5 | – |
| Syphilis | – | 5 | 5 | – | – | 5 | – | 5 | – |
| Purpura | – | 1 | 1 | – | – | 1 | – | 1 | – |
| Lepra | – | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | 1 | 1 | – |
| Chest Disease | – | 7 | 7 | 3 | – | 3 | – | 6 | 1 |
| Spinal do. | – | 2 | 2 | – | – | 2 | – | 2 | – |
| Abscess | – | 70 | 70 | – | 2 | 61 | – | 63 | 7 |
| Diseased Joints | – | 5 | 5 | – | 1 | 4 | – | 5 | – |
| Tympanites | – | 2 | 2 | – | – | 2 | – | 2 | – |
| Totals | 48 | 1,664 | 1,712 | 24 | 13 | 1604 | 11 | 1,652 | 60 |

Medical Officer's Report.

As in previous years the invalids have suffered less during the first quarter than at any other period, notwithstanding the general severity of the weather at that season in this elevated situation; and, indeed, the sickness and mortality have, throughout the year, been less than usual.

This favourable result would appear to have arisen from our almost entire exemption from diseases of an epidemic character, and from typhoid fever, which commonly prevails in the neighbourhood in July and August, and which has proved rather severe and fatal for three years past.

Febrile diseases, although hitherto rather prevalent in this district at particular seasons, have been very rare this year; and most of the cases, which were of a mild aguish nature, soon terminated favourably.

Catarrhal affections, including coughs and colds, are always prevalent amongst the invalids, owing to their predisposition to diseases of the respiratory organs, and when occuring in the debilitated men, are frequently of a chronic character, sometimes confining them for lengthened periods to the infirmary. This complaint presented itself in rather a severe and peculiar form, in the month of January, the weather at the time being intensely cold, with high winds. The attacks were characterized by debility, fever, and other symptoms of influenza. The complaint was rather common for some time, not only amongst the prisoners, but also among the officers and their families; it continued to prevail till about the middle of February, when it almost entirely disappeared; and, although frequently so very severe, the attacks were seldom of long duration, and all the cases terminated favourably.

Bronchitis has almost always presented itself in a chronic form, and in most cases, owing to the advanced age and greatly impaired constitution of the patients, little permanent benefit is to be expected from any mode of treatment. Much, however, can be done to alleviate urgent symptoms, and to render the patients more comfortable.

Five deaths have occurred from the chronic and one from the acute form of the disease during the year. In all these cases the lungs were found, on a *post mortem* examination, extensively tubercular, and full of vomicæ; and, it appears to me, that in the great majority of such cases occurring amongst prisoners, it is associated with tubercular disease of the lungs.

Phthisis.—This insidious and fatal disease continues the cause of our greatest mortality. When we take into account the number labouring under this malady at the close of 1854, and that 22 have been received during the year for phthisis, and 19 for chest disease, besides the great number noted for scrofula, chronic diarrhœa, and other diseases with which tubercular disease of the lungs is frequently conjoined, the deaths are much fewer than might have been expected having been confined to the delicate invalids, as will be seen by reference to the mortality table in the appendix.

I have formerly had occasion to express my opinion of the benefit resulting in such cases from removal to this place, and the comparatively trifling inconvenience experienced by such invalids even in the most severe weather.

Medical Officer's Report.

Our greatest mortality from this disease takes place during the summer months. In many instances, the disease would appear to be arrested during the cold weather; and again to become developed on the approach of summer. Although it appears desirable to send the patients hither at an earlier stage of the disease than we have sometimes been in the habit of receiving them, the improvement in the state of their health has generally been more or less apparent, and the relief in the breathing is sometimes very remarkable.

The first, and I may add, the most important sign of amendment observable in such men is the increase of appetite, which is soon followed by increased bodily vigour.

The result of many of the consumptive cases has been very gratifying; and there are several prisoners now at work on the moor whose health, on reception, was such as to hold out little prospect of recovery; cod liver oil and some other remedies have been given, with much benefit, in such cases; but I do not mean to impute their successful issue to any peculiar mode of treatment pursued here, but rather to the nature of the climate and the facilities of suitably employing weakly men.

Bowel complaints are very common amongst prisoners, and cases of diarrhœa continued to occur throughout the year, sometimes varying in frequency and violence without any apparentcause, whilst at other times they arose from sudden atmospheric changes. The disease was most prevalent in the months of April, August, and November, and in the last of these months, complicated with catarrhal fever; but the complaint has never assumed an epidemic character.

Chronic diarrhœa has been the cause of removal to this place in several instances, and as the complaint has commonly been of long standing or complicated with disease of the lungs, it has proved very intractable. Two of the invalids received during the year for this disease have died of pulmonary consumption, and a third is now in a precarious state from the disease itself.

Scrofula.—Considering the great number of prisoners labouring under scrofulous diseases, the cases admitted into the infirmary have not been numerous. The most common form has been suppurating glands of the neck, but there were also several cases of diseased bones and joints, also large abscesses about the chest and lower extremities. Some of these cases proved tedious from impairment of the constitution, but when unattended by any marked disease of the internal organs, the change to this place soon exerted a beneficial influence, and most of the cases are either progressing favourably or have terminated in a satisfactory manner.

Mental affections.—From there being upwards of 80 prisoners in this establishment of weak or doubtful mind, such cases are frequently brought to my notice. Although few appear on the sick list for mental affections, we have commonly about half-a-dozen in the infirmary for the treatment of other diseases, particularly catarrh, diarrhœa, and epilepsy, those being the complaints to which this class of invalids appear peculiarly liable. When suffering from bodily disease, those men are generally more troublesome, and subject to fits of excitement which renders the greatest vigilance necessary. Two cases have been

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recommended for removal during the year:—1st, No. 2,665, R. D., was received from Portland Prison, September 6th 1854, for "Imbecility of mind, violent and intractable." He maintained the same character here, and as he was several times in the hospital for the treatment of slight bodily ailments, as well as for observation, I had frequent opportunities of watching him, which confirmed my opinion of his insanity. As he was guilty of repeated acts of violence and assaults upon officers, the last being an attempt to knock an officer down with a spade, I deemed it necessary to recommend his removal to a lunatic asylum. 2d, No. 3,143, J. J., was received from Northampton Gaol in August 1855, the cause of removal being "Weak mind, and unfit for separation;" and his whole conduct was so eccentric and violent as to leave no doubt in my mind of his insanity. His manner was very peculiar, and he was guilty of various serious and dangerous acts, such as burning his Bible, prayer and other books in his cell, stating as his reason, "he could not derive any benefit from them," breaking articles of furniture in the cell, as well as the window, without the slightest provocation, and frequently threatening the lives of the officers; it was considered unsafe to allow him to associate with other prisoners, and an inquiry into the state of his mind resulted in an order for his removal to Bethlehem.

A great many of the weak-minded prisoners are, however, harmless and even industrious, which reflects great credit on the careful management of the officers; but as I have before observed, there appears to me a necessity for a more complete separation between the weak-minded and healthy prisoners, as their eccentricities give rise to remarks which irritate and excite them. It would also bring them more prominently under the notice of the officers in charge of the working parties.

Epilepsy.—I have formerly had occasion to allude to the improvement in epileptic patients shortly after reception, and further experience confirms me in that opinion. Many of this class of invalids who were for a time liable to frequent and severe attacks, are now entirely free from the distressing malady, and in others, it has abated in frequency and violence. The number of cases received during the year amount to 24, some of which were of a very severe description, several paroxysms coming on in quick succession in the course of 24 hours leaving the patients in an exhausted and sometimes incoherent state for two or three days.

In general, the attacks have been milder, but always followed by more or less stupor. The rather sudden cessation of the paroxysms in some instances might have appeared suspicious; but a closer observation of the cases led to an opposite conclusion. As many of the epileptics were in a weakly state of health on reception, measures were taken to strengthen the system by suitable diet and exercise, with free exposure to this bracing atmosphere.

Rheumatic affections have been more common this year, and from being generally of a chronic character, sometimes proved rather tedious; this damp climate also appears to aggravate such complaints. Two cases of the disease, in its acute form, occurred during the year;

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they were both very severe, but the two patients made a good recovery.

Accidents. — There have been been a good many cases of injury admitted into the infirmary, including dislocation of shoulder, fracture of arm, &c. &c., but there were few of a serious nature. One young man, who was received here for phthisis, and recovered sufficiently to be able for out-door work, met with a very severe contusion of the chest, by being jammed between two turf waggons. The accident was followed by hæmoptysis and symptoms of his old malady, for which reason he was recommended for licence.

Having now mentioned everything of importance that has occurred during the year, it remains for me to report the general very good conduct of the patients, which has been a source of much pleasure.

As the infirmary officers have nearly all been doing duty for more than three years, I can speak with confidence of their zeal and attention; in particular, Principal Warder Lloyd, who has not only diligently discharged his usual duties, but has devoted considerable time in directing the repairing of trusses and the making of laced stockings and bandages, which are much in request in an establishment of this nature.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

JOHN CAMPBELL, M.D.

*To the Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

## Particulars of Twenty-five Deceased Convicts, for the Year ending 31 December 1855.

| Reg. No. | Initials. | Age at Death. | Total Period passed in Separate Confinement. Yrs. | Mths. | Days. | Association. Yrs. | Mths. | Days. | Date of Conviction. | Sentence. | Received at Dartmoor. From whence. | When. | Cause of Removal to this Prison. | General State of Health in this Prison. | Cause of Death. | Total Period in Hospital. Mths. | Days. | Date of Decease. | Remarks and Post-mortem Appearances. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2134 | D.S. | 25 | 0 | 10 | 24 | 1 | 1 | 19 | 1852. July 2 | 7 | Millbank Prison. | Aug. 9, 1853 | Debility after pleurisy. | Very delicate. | Phthisis | 6 | 2 | 1855. Jan. 18 | Upper lobes of both lungs contained vomicæ, lower lobes tuberculated throughout. Ulceration of small intestines. |
| 1653 | J.W. | 24 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 20 | 1851. Oct. 20 | 7 | Wakefield Prison. | Oct. 22, 1852 | No remarks. | Delicate | Phthisis | 2 | 6 | Jan. 19 | Upper lobes of lungs tuberculated, with a large cavity in the right. Trachea and bronchial tubes contained a quantity of blood. |
| 2618 | W.M. | 37 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 14 | 1852. Mar. 20 | 10 | Portsmouth Prison. | Sept. 6, 1854 | Vertigo, following an injury of the head; incurable. | Very delicate. | Phthisis, with ulceration of the bowels. | 2 | 22 | April 26 | Large vomicæ at the apices of both lungs. Ulceration of large intestines. |
| 1614 | J.R.J. | 55 | 1 | 0 | 20 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1851. April 1 | 10 | Pentonville Prison. | Oct. 21, 1852 | No remarks. | Very delicate. | Chronic bronchitis. | 10 | 19 | May 2 | Thickening of the mucus membrane of the bronchial tubes. Hyportrophy of the heart. |
| 2688 | T.R. | 25 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 3 | 1 | 25 | 1850. Dec. 30 | 10 | Stirling Castle. | Mar. 23, 1853 | Bronchitis and incipient phthisis. | Very delicate. | Phthisis | 1 | 1 | May 5 | Hepatized and tuberculated state of lungs, with effusion into the cavity of the pleura. |
| 2079 | W.J. | 22 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 14 | 1852. Apr. 5 | 7 | Millbank Prison. | May 17, 1853 | Scrofulous glands. | Very delicate. | Phthisis | 7 | 17 | May 6 | Vomicæ at the apices of each lung, with tuberculous deposit throughout. |
| 2815 | J.B. | 33 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1851. Feb. 3 | 7 | Bow Street. | Mar. 3, 1853 | No remarks. | Very delicate. | Phthisis | 0 | 22 | May 12 | Suppurating tubercles throughout the superior and middle lobes of lungs. |
| 1575 | G.E. | 44 | 0 | 11 | 14 | 2 | 5 | 17 | 1851. Oct. 18 | 7 | Millbank Prison. | Oct. 21, 1854 | Scrofulous abscess nearly healed; feeble. | Delicate | Chronic bronchitis. | 2 | 0 | May 18 | Thickening of the bronchial tubes. A large encysted tumour over the first lumbar vertebra. |

## Particulars of Twenty-five Deceased Convicts—*continued.*

| Reg. No. | Initials. | Age at Death. | Total Period passed in Separate Confinement. Yrs. | Mths. | Days. | Association. Yrs. | Mths. | Days. | Date of Conviction. | Sentence. | Received at Dartmoor. From whence. | When. | Cause of Removal to this Prison. | General State of Health in this Prison. | Cause of Death. | Total Period in Hospital. Mths. | Days. | Date of Decease. | Remarks and Post-mortem Appearances. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2694 | R.H.J. | 57 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 21 | 1854. April 1 | 20 | Millbank Prison. | Oct. 21, 1854. | Weakness, much in the infirmary on account of debility. | Very delicate. | Chronic bronchitis. | 4 | 25 | May 28 | Bronchi dilated, with thickening of the lining membrane. Tubercular deposit in both lungs. |
| 2409 | G.G. | 62 | 0 | 9 | 24 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1853. Feb. 23 | 7 | Millbank Prison. | Jan. 24, 1854. | Aged. | Delicate | Erysipelas | 3 | 4 | May 21 | None. |
| 2398 | B.G. | 25 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 1852. June 28 | 10 | Stirling Castle. | Mar. 23, 1855. | Chronic ophthalmia. | Delicate | Phthisis | 1 | 8 | June 11 | Lungs on either side full of small cavities filled with pus, Large intestines ulcerated. |
| 2131 | J.W. | 66 | 1 | 7 | 28 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 1852. Mar. 1 | 7 | Millbank Prison. | Aug. 9, 1853. | Infirm and aged. | Delicate | Chronic bronchitis. | 0 | 16 | June 20 | The right lung hepatized. Bronchi dilated and lining membrane thickened. |
| 2521 | R.W. | 53 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1853. Feb. 28 | 7 | Millbank Prison. | May 1851. | Right hand crippled; had abscess in perineum. | Delicate | Phthisis | 2 | 2 | July 7 | Tubercles in both lungs, and the lower lobes emphysematous. |
| 2884 | J.H. | 22 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 11 | 0 | 1853. Feb. 23 | 14 | Stirling Castle. | Mar. 23, 1855. | Struma. | Very delicate. | Phthisis | 1 | 9 | July 17 | Cavities at the apices of each lung, with tubercular deposit. |
| 2101 | P.M'C. | 29 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 10 | 1 | 1852. June 28 | 7 | Pentonville Prison. | May 17, 1853. | Scrofula and delicate. | Very delicate. | Phthisis | 6 | 28 | July 27 | None. |
| 3043 | W.R. | 20 | 0 | 4 | 11 | 0 | 2 | 27 | 1851. Oct. 25 | 10 | Pentonville Prison. | June 1, 1855. | Phthisical. | Very delicate. | Phthisis | 3 | 0 | Sep. 2 | Cavities at the apices of lungs, with tubercular deposit. |
| 2019 | W.M'D. | 20 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 19 | 1852. Apr. 28 | 7 | Portsmouth Prison. | May 5, 1853. | No remarks. | Delicate | Phthisis | 5 | 5 | Oct. 20 | Large cavities, with tubercles throughout the lungs. |
| 2842 | J.M. | 57 | 0 | 7 | 25 | 0 | 3 | 28 | 1854. July 24 | 15 | Millbank Prison. | Mar. 28, 1855. | Aged. | Very delicate. | Phthisis | 3 | 28 | Nov. 18 | Lungs almost completely decomposed. Old partim of 2d, 3d, and 4th ribs. |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2931 | J.H. - | 22 | 0 | 7 | 18 | 0 | 11 | 9 | 1853. Oct. 19 | 4 | Stirling Castle. | Mar.23,1855. | Struma. | Very delicate. | Phthisis - | 6 | 4 | Nov. 19 | Vomicæ at the apex of each lung, with tubercular deposit throughout. |
| 3022 | Q.R. - | 38 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 0 | 4 | 18 | 1853. Dec. 8 | 6 | Portsmouth Prison. | May 1855. | Chronic diarrhœa and debility. | Very delicate. | Phthisis - | 4 | 18 | Nov. 22 | Cavities at the apex of right lung. Bronchial tubes inflamed and thickened. Effusion into pleura. |
| 3091 | E.W. - | 35 | 0 | 10 | 13 | 0 | 6 | 9 | 1854. Mar.23 | 4 | Millbank Prison. | June22,1855. | Debility, after fever. | Very delicate. | Bronchitis - | 3 | 3 | Dec. 16 | Large cavities and tubercular deposit throughout each lung. Lining membrane of bronchi inflamed and thickened. |
| 3279 | C. J. - | 33 | 1 | – | 29 | 1 | 6 | 23 | 1853. Mar. 10 | 7 | Portsmouth Prison. | 1855 Oct. 25 | Chronic dyspepsia. | Very delicate. | Cancerous disease of the stomach. | 1 | 24 | Dec. 26 | Stomach distended with fluid, and filling nearly the whole abdominal cavity. Cancerous disease at pylorus, obstructing the passage. |
| 2127 | J. C. - | 54 | – | 7 | 29 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 1852. Oct. 18 | 10 | Millbank Prison. | 1853 Aug. 9 | Aged, and debility after pleurisy. | Delicate | Bronchitis | 5 | 4 | Dec. 27 | Bronchial tubes inflamed, and thickened; lower lobe of right lung hepatized. |
| 3151 | W. H. | 31 | – | 5 | 17 | – | 2 | 3 | 1855. Jan. 4 | 6 | Bedford Prison. | 1855 Aug. 22 | General debility and probable disease of the lungs. | Very delicate. | Phthisis - | 4 | 7 | Dec. 31 | None. |

Medical Officer's Report.

RETURN of Prisoners received from different Prisons during the Year 1855, with the Causes of Removal to this Establishment.

| From whence received. | Total received. | No Remarks. | Debilitas. | Aged and Feeble. | Morbus Cordis. | Spinal Disease. | Disease if Tibia. | Chest Disease. | Bronchitis. | Hepatitis. | Diseased Scrotum. | Diseased Leg. | Mental Disease. | Rheumatism. | Paralysis. | Ophthalmia. | Scrofula. | Varicose Veins. | Purpura. | Erysipelas. | Leprs. | Pleuritis. | Porrigo Capitis. | Contracted Chest. | Phthisis. | Pneumonia. | Epilepsia. | Lame in any Member. | Lost Arm. | Lost Leg. | Lost Eye. | Injuries. | Syphilis. | Stricture. | Hernia. | Diarrhœa. | Dyspepsia. | Ulcus. | Tumour. | Abscess. | Hæmorrhoids. | Hæmoptysis. | Diabitis. | Podagra. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Exeter - - | 1 | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Millbank - - | 206 | 1 | 47 | 30 | 4 | 2 | . | 3 | 5 | . | 5 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 37 | 3 | . | . | 2 | . | 1 | 1 | 1 | . | 2 | 20 | 4 | 3 | . | 4 | 1 | 2 | 10 | . | 1 | . | . | 2 | . | 1 | . | . | . |
| Preston - - | 7 | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 2 | 1 | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Wakefield - - | 55 | . | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | . | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | . | . | . | 2 | . | 2 | 2 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 14 | . | . | 1 | 1 | . | . | 18 | . | . | . | 1 | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . |
| Leeds - - | 6 | 2 | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Bath - - | 4 | 2 | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Pentonville - | 17 | . | 2 | 1 | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 2 | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | 1 | . | 2 | . | . | 1 | . | . | 2 | 1 | . | . | 1 | 1 | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . |
| "Stirling Castle" - | 103 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 5 | . | 1 | 8 | 6 | 1 | . | . | 17 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 8 | . | 1 | . | . | 2 | . | . | 9 | . | 18 | 3 | . | . | . | . | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | . | . | . | . | 1 | 1 | . | . |
| Reading - - | 4 | . | 2 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Portsmouth - | 81 | . | 16 | . | 16 | . | . | 2 | 2 | . | . | . | 3 | 4 | . | . | 5 | 1 | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | 5 | . | 3 | 2 | . | . | 1 | . | . | 11 | 1 | 7 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 |
| Leicester - - | 18 | . | . | 7 | . | . | . | 3 | . | . | . | . | 3 | 1 | . | 1 | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 2 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Bow Street - | 12 | 12 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Bedford - - | 10 | 4 | 1 | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Perth - - | 4 | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Northampton - | 5 | . | . | 2 | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | 2 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Bethlehem - | 1 | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Portland - - | 10 | . | . | 1 | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 3 | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | 3 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . |
| Parkhurst - - | 1 | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Totals - | 545 | 27 | 75 | 41 | 37 | 3 | 1 | 19 | 15 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 38 | 10 | 4 | 7 | 57 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 21 | 1 | 24 | 43 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 47 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 3 | . | 3 | 1 | 1 |

ANNUAL RETURN of Convicts' Ages on Conviction confined in this Establishment for the Year 1855.

Medical Officer's Report.

| Ages. | No. of Prisoners remaining on the 1st January 1854. | Received during the Year. | Total. | Discharged during the Year. | | | | | | | | Number remaining on the 1st Jan. 1856. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Pardoned. | Licensed. | Discharged. | Removed. | Embarked. | Escaped. | Died. | Total discharged. | |
| Above 10 & under 20 | 99 | 113 | 212 | – | 107 | – | 4 | 25 | – | 3 | 139 | 73 |
| 20 „ 30 | 503 | 218 | 721 | 1 | 214 | 1 | 13 | 45 | 1 | 9 | 284 | 437 |
| 30 „ 40 | 185 | 100 | 285 | 1 | 80 | – | 8 | 20 | 1 | 4 | 114 | 171 |
| 40 „ 50 | 127 | 50 | 177 | – | 53 | – | 1 | 1 | – | 1 | 56 | 121 |
| 50 „ 60 | 106 | 41 | 147 | – | 31 | – | 13 | – | – | 5 | 49 | 98 |
| 60 „ 70 | 32 | 23 | 55 | – | 10 | – | 7 | – | – | 2 | 19 | 36 |
| 70 „ 80 | 1 | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| Total - - | 1,053 | 545 | 1,598 | 2 | 495 | 1 | 46 | 91 | 2 | 24 | 661 | 937 |

## Meteorological Table for the Year 1855.

| Month. | Daily Average Readings of Barometer. | Daily Average Readings of Thermometer. | | | | | Depth of Rain. | Weather. | | | Direction of Wind. | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | At 8 A.M. | At 12 Noon. | At 4 P.M. | Highest. | Lowest. | | Fair Days. | Partially wet or Fog. | Wet Days. | N. | N.E. | N.W. | S. | S.E. | S.W. | E. | W. | Variable. |
| | | Deg. | Deg. | Deg. | Deg. | Deg. | In. | | | | Days. | Days. | Days. | Days. | Days. | Days | Days | Days. | Days. |
| January - - | 30·06 | $30\frac{10}{31}$ | $35\frac{21}{31}$ | $32\frac{22}{31}$ | 47 | 18 | 0·22 | 15 | 13 | 3 | 4 | 15 | 6 | – | – | 4 | – | 2 | – |
| February - - | 29·89 | $22\frac{1}{28}$ | $\frac{9}{28}30$ | $28\frac{11}{14}$ | 43 | 10 | 2·77 | 14 | 10 | 4 | – | 12 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| March - - - | 29·64 | $35\frac{20}{31}$ | $39\frac{9}{31}$ | $37\frac{16}{31}$ | 48 | 26 | 3·81 | 16 | 13 | 2 | – | 11 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| April - - - | 28·42 | 42 | 49 | 51 | 70 | 38 | 0·97 | 25 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 13 | 9 | – | – | 2 | 5 | – | – |
| May - - - | 29·80 | $45\frac{20}{31}$ | $50\frac{28}{31}$ | $52\frac{28}{31}$ | 74 | 35 | 3·77 | 14 | 14 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 2 | – | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 9 |
| June - - - | 29·09 | 53 | 58 | 61 | 80 | 43 | 6·16 | 15 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 1 | – | 7 | 3 | 4 | – |
| July - - - | 29·86 | 60 | 65 | 66 | 90 | 52 | 4·22 | 11 | 15 | 5 | – | – | 8 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 7 | – |
| August - - - | 29·96 | 58 | 63 | 64 | 80 | 54 | 2·66 | 17 | 9 | 5 | 3 | – | 7 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 8 | – |
| September - - | 28·66 | $53\frac{1}{2}$ | $61\frac{1}{5}$ | $59\frac{1}{2}$ | 70 | 44 | 0·95 | 26 | 3 | 1 | – | 1 | 14 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | – |
| October - - - | 29·64 | $44\frac{13}{31}$ | 51 | 47 | 60 | 31 | 7·22 | 14 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| November - - | 29·91 | 35 | $40\frac{1}{15}$ | $35\frac{4}{5}$ | 50 | 29 | 1·47 | 21 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 2 |
| December - - | 29·79 | $34\frac{11}{31}$ | $37\frac{16}{31}$ | $34\frac{13}{31}$ | 48 | 22 | 3·94 | 19 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 7 | – | 1 | 3 |
| Total - - | | | | | | | 38·16 | 207 | 106 | 52 | 17 | 81 | 87 | 13 | 25 | 58 | 28 | 33 | 23 |

# REPORT

OF THE

# DIRECTORS OF CONVICT PRISONS

ON THE

## DISCIPLINE AND MANAGEMENT

OF

# PORTSMOUTH PRISON.

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# PORTSMOUTH PRISON.

## REPORT,

For the Year 1855, of the Directors of the Convict Prisons, made, as regards Portsmouth Prison, in pursuance of the Act 5 Geo. IV. cap. 84., and Act 13 and 14 Vict. cap. 39.;—specifying the State of the Buildings; the Behaviour and Conduct of the Officers of the Prison, and of the Convicts, the amount of the Earnings of the Convicts, and the Expense of the Prison; and such other Matters relating to the Discipline and Management thereof, as they shall deem expedient, or the Secretary of State shall direct.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.*

To the Right Honourable Sir GEORGE GREY, G.C.B.,

*Secretary of State for the Home Department.*

Sir, 45, *Parliament Street*, 1856.

We have the honour to submit our annual Report for the year 1855, on the state and condition of the Portsmouth Convict Prison.

### *State of the Buildings, &c.*

State of buildings, &c.

The buildings of the prison are all in good repair, and the yards and other parts of the premises in a very satisfactory state.

### *Conduct of the Officers.*

Conduct of the officers

We have reason to report very favourably of the zeal and ability with which the Governor, Captain Rose, and his superior

officers in the discipline department of the prison, have conducted their duties, and of the result which is everywhere manifest in the orderly and cleanly appearance of the prison and prisoners.

The Chaplain's department, under the superintendence of the Rev. Mr. Livesay, continues also to be carried on in a satisfactory manner, and he has derived very efficient aid from the Scripture Reader and Schoolmasters in the religious and school instruction of the prisoners.

The subordinate officers and servants in all the departments have shown, with very few exceptions, general good conduct throughout the year, the Governor being enabled to state in his report that he has been well supported, and that a very good spirit prevails among the officers of the establishment.

*Number and Disposal of the Prisoners.*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Remaining in confinement 1st January 1855 - | 1022 | |
| Received during the year - - - | 886 | |
| | | 1,908 |

Number and disposal of the prisoners.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Removed to Western Australia - - | 161 | |
| „ Bermuda - - - | 90 | |
| „ Gibraltar - - - | 69 | |
| „ Millbank Prison - - - | 5 | |
| „ Pentonville - - - | 2 | |
| „ Portland - - - - | 2 | |
| „ Dartmoor - - - | 81 | |
| , Stirling Castle - - | 8 | |
| „ Lunatic Asylum - - | 1 | |
| Discharged by orders of Licence - - | 458 | |
| „ Expiration of Sentence - | 2 | |
| Deaths - - - - - | 10 | |
| | 889 | |
| Remaining in confinement 31st December - | 1,019 | |
| | | 1,908 |

*Treatment of the Prisoners.*

There has been no ground of complaint among the prisoners as to their treatment, which has been carried on without harsh-

ness, and otherwise agreeably to the rules, nor have any of the complaints by individual prisoners against the officers been substantiated on inquiry. Treatment of the prisoners.

## *Health.*

The general health of the prisoners has been good. The particulars of diseases, and of the deaths, of which there have been ten, (two of them being the result of accident), are given in the Medical Officer's annexed Report. Health.

## *General Conduct of the Prisoners.*

The general conduct of the prisoners has been good, and the individual cases in which it has been necessary to have recourse to the Directors' authority not numerous, nor very aggravated. As in the other convict prisons there has been a tendency to unwilling obedience and exertion among the convicts, (now forming a large proportion of the whole number in the prison), who have been received with sentences of penal servitude, but owing chiefly, we believe, to the judicious treatment and firmness, with which the disposition has been met by the superior and other officers, and the degree of moral influence exercised by them, and their assistants, over the prisoners, no actual combination to resist the rules has been exhibited, and there is reason to hope that as the successive rewards for good conduct in prison, prescribed by the new regulations, come to be experienced by these prisoners, they will in some degree have a similar good effect on their general conduct to that, which has been produced in the cases of convicts previously under sentence of transportation, by the remission, as a reward for good conduct, of a portion of their periods of imprisonment. General conduct of the prisoners.

The alteration in this respect, and the unfavourable comparison which the former class of convicts draw between their position and that of the others, as well as the non-fulfilment of promises which many alleged to have been made to them at the time of their conviction, and afterwards, formed the avowed causes of this discontent to which we have here referred.

## *Description of Labour, &c.*

The nature of the labour and employment of the prisoners have been the same generally as in previous years, namely,

Description of labour, &c.

ordinary labour in the dockyard, and of various kinds for the Ordnance department, and also the ordinary work required for the prison. The two former classes of labour have consisted in removing and stacking timber, coaling and ballasting ships, stowing cables, cleansing tanks, removing guns, carriages, and shot, cleaning out ditches of the fortifications, making and repairing roads, repairing ramparts, carting shingle, &c. &c., and the labour for the prison has consisted chiefly of tradesman's and other work for repairs and alterations, and for carrying on the requisite cooking, tailoring, washing, &c. necessary for the purposes of the establishment.

## *Industry and Value of the Labour.*

Industry and value of the labour.

Allowing for the disturbing cause to the ordinary behaviour of the prisoners mentioned under the head of Conduct, there is reason to be well satisfied with the general industry exhibited by them throughout the year, and the falling off in the result, as shown by the value of their labour, (ascertained where practicable by fair measurement,) has not occurred to any serious extent as compared with former years. The Governor reports that "the heads of departments under whom convicts are em- "ployed bear ready testimony to their very valuable services."

The total value of the prisoners' labour at this prison in the year has been 30,276*l.* 18*s.* 3½*d.*, the average number of men in the prison being 1,000. By the abstract of the labour returns given in the Appendix to the Governor's Report, p. , it will be seen that the labour of the Admiralty department is valued at 23,406*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.* This was executed by an average number of 641 convicts, giving an average rate for each man of 36*l.* 10*s.* 3½*d.* The value of the labour for the Ordnance Department was 3,371*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*, executed by 95 men, and giving an average of 35*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*, nearly for each man. For the prison, the value of the out-of-door and artificers' labour (that is, the work of carpenters, blacksmiths, painters, and labourers,) performed in the year by an average number of 28 convicts, was 979*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*, the average rate per man being 34*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.* Adding the above three items together, it results that a total average number of 764, employed daily at out-of-door work, performed labour in the year to the value of 27,754*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.*, being at the rate per man of 36*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* nearly. The remaining number of prisoners were occupied as follows, viz., a daily average of 106 as cooks,

bakers, washers, tailors, shoemakers, and other necessary prison employments (whose labour valued at 2,519*l.* 12*s.* 4½*d.*, is not included in the foregoing details), and a daily average of 130 (or less than one seventh of the whole number) attending school, sick, under punishment, or otherwise absent from actual work. As the general result, it may be stated that the value of the out-of-door labour performed in the year gives a rate for each of the 1,000 men, forming the average number in the prison, of 27*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*, and if the value of the labour of the cooks, bakers, &c., above excluded, be taken into account, the rate will be increased to 30*l.* 5*s.* 6½*d.* for each man in the prison.

## *Expenses.*

Expenses. The expenditure of the prison, as detailed in the Appendix to the Governor's Report, has amounted to 34,781*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* in the year. This includes a sum of 3,443*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* paid as gratuities or earnings to convicts discharged on licence or other-otherwise, and is reduced by sundry receipts to 34,312*l.* 8*s* 11*d.*

## *General Observations.*

General observations. As in the other prisons for public works, so in this prison (as has been already alluded to under the head of "General Conduct of the Prisoners" in this Report) there has been some cause for anxiety, arising from the discontent expressed and otherwise apparent among the convicts undergoing sentences of penal servitude; many of them alleged that they had been apprised when convicted, and afterwards led to believe during their probation in separate confinement, that if they conducted themselves well on public works, a portion of their sentences would be remitted, and that they would have the advantage of discharge on licence towards the close of their sentence, as in the case of prisoners undergoing sentences of seven and ten years transportation; the influence of the authorities, however, sufficed to prevent a more open exhibition of ill-feeling, and it remains yet to be seen whether the progressive rewards in the prison, authorized (with reference to their cases) for sustained good conduct, will be sufficient to induce the same degree of willing industry and good order, as prevailed under the former system of reward by shortening the length of actual imprisonment.

There have been 458 convicts liberated on licence during the year, making a total from this prison thus liberated since the commencement of the operation of the Act of Parliament of 773. Within the year 16 men have been returned with

licences revoked. One only having been revoked previously, the whole number of revocations since the commencement has thus amounted only to 17. The accounts received of the conduct of many of the discharged prsoners have been very satisfactory.

We have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servants,
J. JEBB, Colonel, R.E.,
*Chairman*,
I. S. WHITTY,
*Director of Convict Prisons.*

# APPENDIX.

## I.

## GOVERNOR'S REPORT.

*Portsmouth Convict Prison,*
*January* 10, 1856.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE the honour to submit the annual Report of the prison under my charge. Governor's Report.

*Conduct of the Officers.*—Has been on the whole very good, and I have been very well supported. From the pressure of labour in the dockyard the duty has been more severe than usual, but the greatest alacrity has been shown in performing it. A very good spirit prevails among the officers of this establishment. Four have, during the year, been dismissed for misconduct.

*Number and Disposal of Prisoners.*

| | |
|---|---|
| In the prison, 1st January | 1,022 |
| Since received | 886 |
| Total | 1,908 |
| Deduct embarked, removed, discharged, &c. | 889 |
| Remaining 31st December | 1,019 |

For detailed statement, see Appendix No. 1.

*Treatment and Conduct of Prisoners.*—The prisoners have been subjected to the regular discipline and hard labour required by the regulations. Each man has regularly attended school one half day in the week. All have had ready access to myself and other superior officers. All have been made to feel that every just complaint or representation is certain of due attention. The general conduct of the prisoners has been good. Whatever serious cases of misconduct have occurred have been reported to the visiting director; all others have been inquired into and disposed of by myself or the deputy governor in my absence. The detailed statement of offences committed and punishments inflicted is contained in Appendix Nos. 2 and 3, the daily routine of prison hours in Appendix No. 4.

The system of "stages" recently introduced into the operation of penal servitude sentences promises to afford a fair stimulus to good behaviour and to work well, though not perhaps to the same extent as the reward of some remission of imprisonment.

Governor's Report.

*Industry of the Prisoners.*—A careful record is kept, as required by the regulations, of every prisoner's industry. Generally speaking, there is no grounds for complaint in this respect. The annual returns exhibit satisfactory results (Appendix No. 5). The heads of departments under whom convicts are employed bear ready testimony to their very valuable services.

The loss of time resulting from the distance to which convicts were sent to labour by the engineer department, and the kind of labour to which they were put when employed under that department (referred to in previous reports), has been remedied, and the services of a greater number made available in the dockyard.

*Escapes.*—There have been five attempts, none of which were successful.

*Buildings.*—All are in good repair.

*Abuses.*—There are none.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. B. Rose, *Governor.*

*The Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

## No. 1.—Annual Statement of the Removal of Convicts to and from Portsmouth Prison between the 1st January 1855 and 31st December 1855.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| On the 1st January 1855 | | | | 1,022 | |
| Received during the Year from— | | | | | |
| Convict Prisons | Millbank | 176 | | | |
| | Parkhurst | 17 | | | |
| | Pentonville | 230 | | | |
| | Portland | 8 | | | |
| | Dartmoor | 1 | | | |
| | | | 432 | | |
| Convict Hulks | "Warrior" | 3 | | | |
| | "Stirling Castle" | 14 | | | |
| | "Defence" | 5 | | | |
| | | | 22 | | |
| County and Borough Prisons under Contract with the Government | Wakefield | 187 | | | |
| | Preston | 32 | | | |
| | Leeds | 34 | | | |
| | Leicester | 30 | | | |
| | Northampton | 26 | | | |
| | Perth | 49 | | | |
| | | | 358 | | |
| County and Borough Prisons (Exeter) | | 1 | | | |
| Bermuda (by the "Sir George F. Seymour") | | 54 | | | |
| Gibraltar (by the "Herefordshire") | | 3 | | | |
| Metropolitan Police (Licence revoked) | | 16 | | | |
| | | | 74 | | |
| Total | | | | 1,908 | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Disposed of during the year, by— | | | | |
| Transfers to Convict Prisons | Millbank | 5 | | |
| | Pentonville | 2 | | |
| | Portland | 2 | | |
| | Dartmoor | 81 | | |
| | | | 90 | |
| Transfers to Convict Hulks | "Stirling Castle" | 8 | | |
| | | | 8 | |
| Embarkations | Western Australia | 161 | | |
| | Bermuda | 90 | | |
| | Gibraltar | 69 | | |
| | | | 320 | |
| Removals | Lunatic Asylums | 1 | | |
| | | | 1 | |
| Discharges | On expiration of Sentence | 2 | | |
| | On Licence | 458 | | |
| | | | 460 | |
| Deaths | | | | 10 |
| Numbers remaining 31st December 1855 | | | | 1,019 |
| Total | | | | 1,908 |

Governor's Report.

## No. 2.

DISTRIBUTION of TIME, distinguishing the Longest and Shortest Days.

| | Longest Day. | | | Shortest Day. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | A.M. | A.M. | H. M. | A.M. | A.M. | H. M. |
| Prisoners rise, wash themselves, clean cells and wards - | 5 15 to | 6 0 | = 0.45 | 5 30 to | 6 15 | = 0.45 |
| Breakfast (including serving out) | 6 0 „ | 6 35 | = 0.35 | 6 15 „ | 6 55 | = 0.40 |
| Morning prayers (including time for unlocking and removing to and fro) - - | 6 35 „ | 7 0 | = 0.25 | 6 55 „ | 7 20 | = 0.25 |
| Labour (including mustering and going to and from work) | 7 0 „ | 11 55 | = 4.55 | 7 20 „ | 11 55 | = 4.35 |
| | P. M. | | | P. M. | | |
| Dinner (including serving out), making up hammocks - | 11 55 „ | 1 0 | = 1.5 | 11 55 „ | 1 0 | = 1.5 |
| Labour (including mustering and going to and from work) - | 1 0 „ | 5 55 | = 4.55 | 1 0 „ | 3 55 | = 2.55 |
| Evening prayers and lecture (including time for unlocking, &c.) | 5 55 „ | 6 30 | = 0.35 | 3 55 „ | 4 30 | = 0.35 |
| Supper (including serving out) - | 6 30 „ | 7 15 | = 0.45 | 4 30 „ | 5 30 | = 1.0 |
| Cleaning shoes, shaving, hair cutting, &c., and reading in cells | 7 15 „ | 7 45 | = 0.30 | 5 30 „ | 7 30 | = 2.0 |
| Making down hammocks - | 7 45 „ | 8 0 | = 0.15 | 7 30 „ | 8 0 | = 0.30 |
| Total - - | - - - | | - 14.45 | | | 14.30 |

ABSTRACT OF THE FOREGOING.

| | Longest Day. | Shortest Day. |
|---|---|---|
| | H. M. | H. M. |
| Hours of labour - | 9.50 | 7.25 |
| Meal hours - - | 2.25 | 3.50 |
| Prayers - - - - | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| In-door occupation - - | 1.30 | 3.15 |
| Total - | 14.45 | 14.30 |

No. 3.

RETURN showing the Nature, Quantity, and Value of Work performed by the Convicts from Portsmouth Prison, in the year ending December 31, 1855.

| No. of Men. | Work Performed. | Price of Work. | Value. | Average value per man per day. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ADMIRALTY. | s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | s. d. |
| | 1. DOCKYARD. | | | | | |
| 25,172 | Timber:— | Per load. | | | | |
| | 380,864 Cubic feet removed - - 500 yards. | 0 9 | 285 12 9 | | | |
| | 108,847 „ - - - 600 „ | 0 10 | 90 14 2 | | | |
| | 89,409 „ - - - 700 „ | 0 11 | 81 19 0 | | | |
| | 244,808 „ - - - 800 „ | 1 0 | 244 16 0 | | | |
| | 24,339 „ - - - 900 „ | 1 1 | 26 7 7 | | | |
| | 7,628 „ - - - 1,000 „ | 1 2 | 8 18 6 | | | |
| | 2,165 „ - - - 1,200 „ | 1 4 | 2 17 4 | | | |
| | 183,466 „ - from pits 500 „ | 1 2 | 214 0 6 | | | |
| | 60,912 „ - „ 600 „ | 1 3 | 76 2 6 | | | |
| | 20,262 „ - „ 1,000 „ | 1 7 | 32 1 3 | | | |
| | 673 „ - carried 500 „ | 1 6 | 0 19 6 | | | |
| | 127,694 „ - stowed under - 4 tiers. | 0 11 | 117 1 2 | | | |
| | 97,719 „ - - - 8 „ | 1 1 | 105 16 10 | | | |
| | 65,828 „ - - - 12 „ | 1 2 | 76 16 6 | | | |
| | 50,264 „ - - - 17 „ | 1 5 | 71 3 9 | | | |
| | 6,179 „ - - - 20 „ | 1 7 | 9 16 4 | | | |
| | 267,351 „ - unstowed - - - - | 0 8 | 178 4 8 | | | |
| | 11,500 „ - unstowed and restowed - - | 1 4 | 15 6 8 | | | |
| | 295,880 „ - canted - - - - | 0 6 | 147 19 0 | | | |
| | 3,820 „ - landed with crane - - - | 0 8 | 2 10 8 | | | |
| | Carried forward - - - | - - | 1,789 4 8 | | | |

Governor's Report.

No. 3.—Return showing the Nature, Quantities, and Value &c.—*continued.*

| No. of Men. | | Work performed. | Price of Work. | Value. | | | Average value per man per day. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 25,172 | Brought forward | s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | s. d. |
| | | | | 1,789 4 8 | | | |
| | | Plank:—Removed and stowed | Per 100 ft. | | | | |
| | | 255,898 superficial feet, Oak - - 4 inch. | 0 11 | 117 5 9 | | | |
| | | 70,884 " " - - 3½ " | 0 10 | 29 10 10 | | | |
| | | 137,153 " " - - 3 " | 0 9 | 51 9 0 | | | |
| | | 64,087 " " - - 2½ " | 0 8 | 21 7 4 | | | |
| | | 57,218 " " - - 2 " | 0 7 | 16 13 8 | | | |
| | | 51,693 " " - - 1½ " | 0 6 | 12 18 6 | | | |
| | | 132,430 " Fir - - 4 " | 0 10 | 55 3 4 | | | |
| | | 57,883 " " - - 3½ " | 0 9 | 21 14 3 | | | |
| | | 399,214 " " - - 3 " | 0 8 | 133 1 4 | | | |
| | | 72,305 " " - - 2½ " | 0 7 | 21 1 9 | | | |
| | | 103,219 " " - - 2 " | 0 6 | 25 16 0 | | | |
| | | 203,617 " " - - 1½ " | 0 4 | 33 18 8 | | | |
| | | 115,710 " " unstowed or restowed 4 " | 0 8 | 38 11 4 | | | |
| | | 6,640 " " " - 3½ " | 0 7 | 1 18 6 | | | |
| | | 29,823 " " " - 3 " | 0 6 | 7 9 0 | | | |
| | | 10,673 " " " - 2½ " | 0 5 | 2 4 7 | | | |
| | | 13,136 " " " - 2 " | 0 4 | 2 3 8 | | | |
| | | 47,289 " " " - 1½ " | 0 3 | 5 18 3 | | | |
| | | Slabs :— | Each. | | | | |
| | | 4,050 fathoms, stacked - - - - - | 0 10 | 168 15 0 | | | |
| | | 1,291 waggons unloaded - - - - - | 0 2 | 10 15 2 | | | |
| | 25,172 | Total Timber - - - - | | | 2,567 0 7 | | 2 0¼ |
| | 15,685½ | Coaling:— | Per ton. | | | | |
| | | In "Malabar" Coal Ship | | | | | |
| | | 5,291 tons coal, received and stowed - - - | 1 0 | 264 11 0 | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 2,343 „ issued to steamers | | | 0 | 9 | 87 | 17 | 3 | |
| | | | 29 „ patent fuel | | | 0 | 10½ | 1 | 5 | 4½ | |
| | | | 2,952 „ filled in bags | | | 1 | 0 | 147 | 12 | 0 | |
| | | | In "Maidstone" and "Pitt" Coal Ships | | | | | | | | |
| | | | 3,702 tons coal, received and stowed | | | 1 | 4 | 246 | 16 | 0 | |
| | | | 159 „ patent fuel | | | 1 | 6½ | 12 | 5 | 1½ | |
| | | | 5,347½ „ issued to steamers | | | 1 | 2 | 311 | 18 | 9 | |
| | | | 2,858 „ filled in bags | | | 1 | 4 | 190 | 10 | 8 | |
| | | | On shore: | | | | | | | | |
| | | | 15,946½ tons, coal received and stowed | | | 1 | 0 | 797 | 6 | 6 | |
| | | | 396 „ patent fuel „ | | | 1 | 2 | 23 | 2 | 0 | |
| | | | 3,265 „ coal landed only | | | 0 | 6 | 81 | 12 | 6 | |
| | | | 304½ „ „ stowed only | | | 0 | 6 | 7 | 12 | 3 | |
| | | | 5,625½ „ „ issued to steamers | | | 1 | 2 | 328 | 3 | 1 | |
| 15,685½ | | | Total Coaling | | | | | | | 2,500 | 12 | 6 | | | 3 | 2¼ |
| | 1,104 | | Ballasting :— | | | | | | | | |
| | | | 1,848⅓ tons, removed and stowed | | | 1 | 0 | 92 | 8 | 6 | |
| | | | 628 „ hoisted from hold of ship of the line | | | 1 | 2 | 36 | 12 | 8 | |
| | | | 211 „ lowered into ditto | | | 1 | 0 | 10 | 11 | 0 | |
| | | | 224 „ „ frigate | | | 0 | 11 | 10 | 5 | 4 | |
| 1,104 | | | Total Ballasting | | | | | | | 149 | 17 | 6 | | | 2 | 8½ |
| 41,961½ | | | Total measured work in Dock-yard | | | | | | | 5,217 | 10 | 7 | | | 2 | 5¾ |
| | | | Unmeasured work, at | | | Days. | | per day. | | | | | | | | |
| | 12,197 | | Removing timber for survey | | | 12,197 | | 2 | 4 | 1,422 | 19 | 8 | | | | |
| | 9,790½ | | Removing and stowing boats and masts | | | 9,790½ | | 2 | 6 | 1,223 | 16 | 3 | | | | |
| | 9,488 | | Removing and stowing chain cable | | | 9,488 | | 2 | 4 | 1,106 | 18 | 8 | | | | |
| | 7,333 | | Assisting shipwrights | | | 7,333 | | 2 | 4 | 855 | 10 | 4 | | | | |
| | 14,662½ | | Removing and carting sundries | | | 14,662½ | | 2 | 4 | 1,710 | 12 | 6 | | | | |
| | 70,634½ | | Sundry work not classified, as stowing old timber, collecting and stowing old iron, screening coal, cleaning out docks, sweeping dock-yard, &c. | | | 70,634½ | | 2 | 4 | 8,240 | 13 | 10 | | | | |
| 124,105½ | | | Total unmeasured work | | | | | | | 14,560 | 11 | 3 | | | 2 | 4½ |
| 166,067 | | | Total Dock-yard Carried forward | | | | | | | 19,778 | 1 | 10 | | | | |

No. 3.—Return showing the Nature, Quantities, and Value, &c.—*continued.*

| No. of Men. | | | Work performed. | | Price of Work. | Value. | | | Average value per man per day. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | *s.* *d.* | £ *s.* *d.* | £ *s.* *d.* | £ *s.* *d.* | *s.* *d.* |
| | 166,067 | | Brought forward - - - | | - - | - - - | 19,778 1 10 | | |
| | | | 2. Clarence Yard. | Days. | per day. | | | | |
| | | 4,327½ | Cleaning, painting, whitewashing, and stowing tanks - | 4,327½ | 2 4 | 504 17 6 | | | |
| | | 17,323½ | Sundry work - - - - - - | 17,323½ | 2 4 | 2,021 1 6 | | | |
| | 21,651 | | | | | | 2,525 19 0 | | 2 4 |
| | | 11,021½ | 3. Haslar Hospital. | | | | | | |
| | 11,021½ | | Sundry work, as making roads, levelling ground, carting shingle, &c. - - - - - | 11,021½ | 2 0 | 1,102 3 0 | | | |
| | | | | | | | 1,102 3 0 | | 2 0 |
| 198,739½ | | | - - - - Total Admiralty - - - | | - - | - - | | 23,406 3 10 | 2 4½ |
| | | | ORDNANCE. | | | | | | |
| | | | 1. Gun Wharf. | | | | | | |
| | 13,915 | | Sundry work, as shipping and unshipping stores, removing, scraping, and painting carriages, guns, shot and shell, &c. - - - - - - - | 13,915 | 2 4 | - - | 1,623 8 4 | | 2 4 |
| | | | 2. Royal Engineers. | | | | | | |
| | | | 1. Portsmouth side. | | | | | | |
| | | 995½ | Working stone, and building bridge and sea wall - | 995½ | 3 0 | 149 6 6 | | | |
| | | 682 | Cleaning mud out of mill-dam - - - | 682 | 3 0 | 102 6 0 | | | |
| | | 5,844 | Sundry work, as repairing ramparts, excavating for magazine, &c. - - - - - - - - | 5,844 | 2 4 | 681 16 0 | | | |
| | | 3,000 | Carting shingle, &c. - - - - - - | 3,000 | 1 6 | 2 0 | | | |
| | 10,521½ | | 2. Gosport side. | | | | 1,158 8 6 | | 2 2¼ |
| | 4,515 | | Sundry work, as repairing roads, ramparts, &c. - | 4,515 | 2 4 | - - | 526 15 0 | | 2 4 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 627½ | 3. SOUTHSEA ESPLANADE. Work executed for the Southsea Esplanade Committee of the Town Council, on the part of the Ordnance. | | | | |
| 29,579 | 627½ | | | | | | |
| 228,318½ | | | Total PUBLIC DEPARTMENTS - - | - - | - - | - - | 26,777 9 8 | 2 4 |
| | | | PRISON. | per day. | | | | |
| | | 1,833½ | Carpenters - - - - - - - | 2 9¼ | 254 8 7 | | | |
| | | 1,847 | Blacksmiths - - - - - - - | 2 9½ | 257 17 3 | | | |
| | | 895 | Bookbinders - - - - - - | 2 0 | 89 10 0 | | | |
| | | 3,117½ | Labourers - - - - - - - | 2 4 | 263 14 2 | | | |
| | | 914½ | Painters - - - - - - - | 2 6 | 114 6 3 | | | |
| | 8,607½ | | | | | 979 16 3 | - - - | 2 3¼ |
| | | 4,504 | Shoemakers - - - - - - - | 1 6 | 337 16 0 | | | |
| | | 4,782½ | Tailors - - - - - - - | 1 6 | 358 13 9 | | | |
| | | 2,167½ | Writers in school - - - - - - | 1 6 | 162 11 3 | | | |
| | | 568½ | Boatmen - - - - - - - | 2 0 | 56 17 0 | | | |
| | | 6,440½ | Washers - - - - - - - | 1 6 | 483 0 9 | | | |
| | | 3,272 | Cooks - - - - - - - | 1 6 | 245 6 0 | | | |
| | | 2,155 | Bakers - - - - - - - | 1 6 | 202 0 7½ | | | |
| | | 4,268 | Cleaners - - - - - - - | 1 6 | 320 2 0 | | | |
| | | 3,516 | Pumpers - - - - - - - | 1 6 | 263 14 0 | | | |
| | | 1,194 | Hair-pickers - - - - - - - | 1 6 | 89 11 0 | | | |
| | 32,868 | | | | | 2,519 12 4½ | - - - | 1 6¼ |
| 41,475½ | | | | | | | 3,499 8 7½ | 1 8¼ |
| 269,794 | | | Total Effectives - - - - - - | - - | - - - | - - - | 30,267 18 3½ | 2 2½ |
| | | | NON EFFECTIVES. | | | | | |
| | | 8,346 | Sick - - - - - - - - | — | — | | | |
| | | 26,209 | School - - - - - - - - | — | — | | | |
| | | 3,019 | Separate cells, under Punishment, and for other reasons - | — | — | | | |
| | | 2,669½ | Time lost - - - - - - - | — | — | | | |
| | 40,243½ | | | | | | | |
| 310,037½ | | | GENERAL TOTAL - - - - - - | - - | - - | - - | 30,276 18 3½ | 1 11¼ |

No. 4.—ABSTRACT of previous RETURN, showing General Averages.

| No. of days of 10 hours each. | No. of Men, or actual days' work. | | Nature of Work. | | Value. £ s. d. | Value. £ s. d. | Average value per man per day. s. d. | Value per man per day of 10 hours each. s. d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 25,172 | ADMIRALTY - | Measured Work: Timber - | 2,567 0 7 | | 2 0¼ | 2 2¼ |
| | | 15.685½ | | Coal - | 2,500 12 6 | | 3 2¼ | 3 5¼ |
| | | 1,104 | | Ballast - | 149 17 6 | | 2 8½ | 2 11 |
| 38,814 | 41,961½ | | | | | 5,217 10 7 | 2 5¾ | 2 8¼ |
| | | 124,105½ | | Unmeasured Work: Dock Yard - | 14,560 11 3 | | | |
| | | 21,651 | | Clarence Yard - | 2,525 19 0 | | 2 4 | 2 6½ |
| | | 11,021½ | | Haslar Hospital - | 1,102 3 0 | | | |
| | 156,778 | | | | | 18,188 13 3 | | |
| 183,834 | 198,739½ | | | | | 23,406 3 10 | 2 4¼ | 2 6½ |
| | | 13,915 | ORDNANCE - | Civil Branch: Gun Wharf - | 1,623 8 4 | | 2 4 | 2 6¼ |
| | | 10,521½ | | Royal Engineers: Portsmouth - | 1,158 8 6 | | 2 2¼ | 2 4½ |
| | | 4,515 | | Gosport - | 526 15 0 | | 2 4 | 2 6¼ |
| | | 627½ | | Southsea - | 62 14 0 | | 2 0 | 2 2 |
| 27,360½ | 29,579 | | | | | 3,371 5 10 | 2 3¼ | 2 5¼ |
| 211,194½ | 228,318½ | | | | | 26,777 9 8 | 2 4 | 2 6¼ |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 8,607½ | Measured Work: Prison Trades - - - | 979 | 16 | 3 | - - - | 2 | 3¼ | 2 | 5½ |
| 38,365 | 41,475½ | 32,868 | Unmeasured Work - - - - - | 2,519 | 12 | 4½ | - - - | 1 | 6¼ | 1 | 8¼ |
| | | | | | | | 3,499 8 7½ | 1 | 8 | 1 | 9¾ |
| 249,559½ | 269,794 | | | | | | 30,276 18 3½ | 2 | 2¾ | 2 | 5½ |
| | | 40,243½ | Sick, School, under Punishment, Time lost, &c. | | | | | | | | |
| 3725 | 40,243½ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 286,784½ | 310,037½ | | Total - - - - - | - | - | - | £31,038 4 5 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Number of Working Days in the Year - - - - - - - - | 310 | |
| Average Number of Working Hours per Day - - - - - - - - | 9¼ | |
| Average Number of Men in Prison (Working Days) - - - - - - | 1,000 | Admiralty - 641<br>Ordnance - - 95<br>Prison - - 264 |
| Average Number Effective for Labour - - - - - - | 870 | |

Governor's Report.

No. 5.

RETURN of the Disposal of CONVICT LABOUR, showing the Average Daily Number employed for each Public Department and at different kinds of Prison Work, the Number Non-effective, and the proportion per cent. of each upon the whole Average Number in the Prison throughout the Year 1855.

| Department. | Daily average number employed. | Proportion per cent. on whole Number in Prison. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ADMIRALTY: | | | | | |
| Dockyard | 536 | 53·564 | 64·102 | 73,641 | 87·019 |
| Royal Clarence Yard | 70 | 6·983 | | | |
| Haslar Hospital | 35 | 3·555 | | | |
| ORDNANCE: | | | | | |
| Gun Wharf | 45 | 4·488 | 9·539 | | |
| Royal Engineers, Portsmouth | 34 | 3·393 | | | |
| Royal Engineers, Gosport | 15 | 1·456 | | | |
| „ Southsea | 2 | ·202 | | | |
| PRISON (effectives):— | | | | | |
| Carpenters | 6 | ·591 | 13·378 | 13·378 | |
| Smiths | 6 | ·596 | | | |
| Shoemakers | 14 | 1·453 | | | |
| Tailors | 15 | 1·542 | | | |
| Bookbinders | 3 | ·289 | | | |
| Writers in School | 7 | ·699 | | | |
| Labourers | 10 | 1·005 | | | |
| Painters | 3 | ·295 | | | |
| Boatmen | 2 | ·183 | | | |
| Washers | 21 | 2·007 | | | |
| Cooks | 10 | 1·056 | | | |
| Bakers | 7 | ·696 | | | |
| Cleaners | 14 | 1·377 | | | |
| Pumpers | 11 | 1·134 | | | |
| Hair-pickers, Menders, and Barbers | 4 | ·385 | | | |
| PRISON (non-effectives):— | | | | | |
| Sick | 27 | 2·692 | 12·981 | 12·981 | 12·981 |
| School | 84 | 8·454 | | | |
| Confinement under punishment or otherwise | 10 | ·974 | | | |
| Time lost | 9 | ·861 | | | |
| | 1,000 | 100· | 100· | 100· | 100· |

GENERAL ABSTRACT of CONVICT LABOUR. Year 1855.

| Department. | Value of Work performed. | Total No. of Prisoners employed. | Average daily Number. | Proportion per cent. on whole No. in Prison. | Average daily Value per Man. | Average Value per Man per Day of 10 Hours. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | £ s. d. | | | | s. d. | s. d. |
| ADMIRALTY | 23,406 3 10 | 198,739½ | 641 | 64· | 2 4½ | 2 6¾ |
| ORDNANCE | 3,371 5 10 | 29,579 | 96 | 10· | 2 3¼ | 2 5¼ |
| PRISON (effectives) | 4,302 14 9 | 41,475½ | 133 | 13· | 2 0¾ | 2 2¾ |
| „ (non-effectives) | - - - | 40,243½ | 130 | 13· | — | — |
| Total £ | 31,080 4 5 | 310,037½ | 1,000 | 100· | 2 0 | 2 2 |

No. 6.

STATEMENT of OFFENCES and PUNISHMENTS during the Year 1855.

| Number of Offenders punished. | | | Number of Men not punished. | Number of Offences for which actual Punishment was inflicted. | | | | Total Number of Admonitions. | Average daily Number of Men in Prison. | Total No. of Prisoners during the Year. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| By Director. | By Governor. | Total. | | By Director. | By Governor. | Total. | Average No. of Offences daily. | | | |
| 13* | 375 | 388 | 1,520 | 18 | 941 | 979 | 2·7 yearly (or 0·27 per cent.) | 350 | 1,000 | 1,908 |

* Corporal Punishment, 10.

No. 7.

STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE of PORTSMOUTH PRISON for the Year ended 31st March 1856.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Salaries of principal officers and clerks | 2,753 | 3 | 11 |
| Wages of subordinate officers and servants | 5,542 | 5 | 3 |
| Salaries and wages of manufacturing or labour department | 469 | 19 | 9 |
| Rations for officers and allowances in lieu thereof | 1,521 | 17 | 7 |
| Uniforms for officers and servants | 596 | 15 | 7 |
| Victualling prisoners | 12,220 | 8 | 3 |
| Clothing, &c. for prisoners | 4,086 | 15 | 8 |
| Bedding for prisoners | 259 | 12 | 7 |
| Medicines, surgical instruments, &c. | 105 | 12 | 1 |
| Medical comforts (extras for the sick) | 183 | 18 | 9 |
| Clothing and travelling expenses of prisoners on their liberation | 893 | 0 | 0½ |
| Gratuities to convicts | 3,443 | 10 | 1 |
| Furniture and fittings | 158 | 3 | 9 |
| Kitchen utensils, crockery, cutlery, &c. | 46 | 8 | 6 |
| Fuel and light for general purposes | 1,000 | 16 | 6 |
| Buildings, hulks, and ordinary repairs | 404 | 3 | 8 |
| Soap, scouring, and cleaning articles | 356 | 19 | 9 |
| Brushes, brooms, and mops | 87 | 12 | 0 |
| Funeral expenses, inquests, &c. | 9 | 14 | 10 |
| Various small disbursements | 383 | 0 | 8 |
| Rent, rates, and taxes | 258 | 0 | 2 |
| Total | 34,781 | 19 | 4½ |
| Deduct amount of sundry receipts | 469 | 10 | 5½ |
| Net expenditure | 34,312 | 8 | 11 |

## II.

## CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

*Portsmouth Convict Prison,*
*January* 26, 1856.

GENTLEMEN,

Chaplain's Report.

IN laying before you my report of the moral and religious condition of the prisoners during the past year, I may state that, though I have no proofs to submit of any marked improvement beyond that of former years, I can yet claim for the labours of the chaplain, Scripture reader, and masters very satisfactory results.

The conduct of the prisoners has been in general very good. I am, however, free to confess that in this respect I have been agreeably disappointed. The prisoners under penal servitude joined this prison,—most of them at least,—with very erroneous ideas relative to their respective sentences. Hence a feeling of dissatisfaction was generated when they were set right on this point, though it was subsequently allayed on the appearance of the Secretary of State's notice, in which they found many advantages held out to industry and good conduct, compensating in some degree for the loss of that on which they had built their hopes, viz., a mitigation of their sentence.

There has been no deviation from the plans adopted in the school, and specified on former occasions; the progress made by the men has been satisfactory, the attention of the masters and Scripture reader unremitting. The appointment of an additional master, suggested in my former report, would be felt throughout the school.

Mr. Gossuch, the second master, is entirely occupied with the duties connected with the chaplain's office, so that his services are not available for the school. I should, however, be very glad to see him restored to his legitimate sphere, and his present work done by a clerk specially appointed for that purpose; it would be a most excellent arrangement.

The usual visits from cell to cell during the winter months bear evidence of their being productive of much good. The reports of the Scripture reader and masters of this particular branch of their duties are very pleasing as well as highly creditable.

The attendance at the infirmary of the chaplain and Scripture reader takes place daily. Morning and evening prayers are read, with portions of Scripture, each patient visited, and the sacrament

Chaplain's Report.

administered as the case may require. A time of sickness affords great and peculiar facilities for turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just. The deaths of two prisoners have given me more than ordinary comfort, and excited hopes of their final acceptance. They died happy, confessing that the Lord had in their cases mingled much mercy with his judgments, and seemed to have closed the prison doors upon them only to open the gates of heaven.

During the past year the burial ground has been very much improved, and an excellent hard made, whereby we can approach it at all times of tide. The convenience of a private entrance into the cemetery had been a great desideratum from the beginning. It is so no longer, the ground is filling fast; it was opened in December 1849, and now numbers upwards of 240 graves.

The prisoners' library, which has been much augmented during the past year, now consists of 2,500 volumes, or parts of volumes. Works of light reading are usually preferred, but we endeavour to neutralize the ill effects of such a preference, by making every issue to be accompanied by a tract or some other small book of a religious tendency. Many a good book by these means is read by men who would never have asked for them.

The manual of prayers published by the Rev. Joseph Kingsmill, a copy of which is furnished to every prisoner for cell use, has supplied a want which had been much felt.

The Bible class, which assembles in the chapel an hour previous to the afternoon service on the Sunday, is in a satisfactory condition, and the attendance very much increasing.

The bookbinders find full employment in the stamping, occasionally re-binding, and covering the new works added to the prisoners' library, and in general repairs. Their work is creditably performed: its amount, however, would be considerably increased, if an officer could be spared to superintend it.

The sacrament of the Lord's supper has been administered four times during the year in the chapel, and several times in the infirmary. The number of the communicants has not increased.

A few observations on the ticket-of-leave system will conclude my report; it is still a vexed question whether it has succeeded or not. From the many satisfactory replies I have obtained to my subsequent inquiries into the conduct and circumstances of the men discharged on licence from this prison, I am led to form an opinion decidedly in favour of the system, notwithstanding it has been so cavilled at and abused. Public opinion is prone to form itself on a few isolated cases, whereas the quarterly accounts carefully gathered together by the chaplains, and regularly sent up to the Directors, of everything that can be learnt with reference to every case of a discharged prisoner on licence, afford the only ground on which to base a correct estimate of the system and of the result of its operation. The subjoined statement will, I think, prove satisfactory, and tend to remove much scepticism on this point. It will be found that though the

Chaplain's Report.

returns are not in every case such as we would wish, they are, nevertheless, quite as favourable as we had any right to expect. The preventing a prisoner on licence from returning to the town or neighbourhood where he had previously been convicted, with utter loss of character, and where he would be liable to fall back again amongst his old associates, may, probably, add to the efficiency of the system. Individual cases may occur in which the restriction may seem a hardship, where, for instance the very locality in which the man's wife and family may be living is closed against him; yet I am inclined to think that upon the whole the effect will be beneficial.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your very obedient servant,
GEO. WM. LIVESAY, *Chaplain.*

*To the Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

No. 1.—Number of Prisoners received during the Year 1855, and their State of Education on Reception.

| Prisons, &c. received from | Total Number received. | Placed in the 1st Class. | 2nd Class. | 3rd Class. | Read well on Reception. | Read imperfectly. | Read words of 3 or 4 letters. | Could not read at all. | Write well. | Write fairly. | Could not write. | Write their own letters. | Could not do so. | Arithmetic, practice, proportion, &c. | First 4 Rules, simple and compound. | Addition and substraction. | Could make figures. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Millbank | 176 | 49 | 58 | 69 | 48 | 72 | 53 | 3 | 41 | 117 | 18 | 135 | 41 | 45 | 70 | 45 | 16 |
| Pentonville | 230 | 83 | 69 | 78 | 88 | 78 | 58 | 6 | 78 | 132 | 20 | 184 | 46 | 68 | 79 | 60 | 23 |
| Wakefield | 187 | 33 | 56 | 98 | 38 | 83 | 65 | 1 | 18 | 149 | 20 | 111 | 76 | 28 | 80 | 37 | 42 |
| Leeds | 34 | 10 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 4 | — | 8 | 25 | 1 | 26 | 8 | 6 | 20 | 4 | 4 |
| Preston | 32 | 8 | 10 | 14 | 6 | 15 | 11 | — | 3 | 19 | 10 | 18 | 14 | 4 | 15 | 9 | 4 |
| Perth | 49 | 16 | 14 | 19 | 14 | 28 | 7 | — | 8 | 41 | — | 36 | 13 | 7 | 32 | 10 | — |
| Northampton | 26 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 18 | 7 | — | 9 | 17 | — | 22 | 4 | 7 | 12 | 7 | — |
| Leicester | 30 | 8 | 9 | 13 | 6 | 20 | 4 | — | 6 | 22 | 2 | 19 | 11 | 5 | 15 | 5 | 5 |
| Exeter | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| Portland | 8 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | — | 2 | 6 | — | 8 | — | 5 | 2 | 1 | — |
| Dartmoor | 1 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| Parkhurst | 17 | 10 | 7 | — | 8 | 9 | — | — | 8 | 9 | — | 17 | — | 8 | 9 | — | — |
| "Stirling Castle" | 14 | 4 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 3 | — | 3 | 10 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 2 |
| "Defence" | 5 | 2 | — | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | — | 1 | 4 | — | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | — |
| "Warrior" | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 |
| Licence revoked | 16 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 11 | 2 | 14 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 1 |
| | | 240 | 268 | 321 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gibraltar | 3 | Not classed. | | | 243 | 357 | 217 | 12 | 189 | 565 | 75 | 605 | 224 | 194 | 348 | 189 | 98 |
| Bermuda | 54 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total 886 | 57 | = 829 | | | 829 | | | | 829 | | | 829 | | 829 | | | |

No. 2.—Number of Prisoners discharged during the Year 1855, and their Educational Improvement.

| Disposal. | Total discharged. | 1st Class in School. | 2nd Class. | 3rd Class. | Total Number. | Improved much in reading. | A little, ditto. | No improvement, ditto. | Improved in writing. | A little, ditto. | No improvement, ditto. | Improved in arithmetic. | A little, ditto. | No improvement, ditto. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Western Australia | 161 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Of the 372 prisoners who have made no improvement in reading, 218 could read well on reception, leaving 154 who have made no apparent advance. Of the 284 in writing, 30 could write well on reception, leaving 254 who have not advanced in this branch. Only 33 prisoners marked "nil" on the nominal list have made no visible improvement in either reading, writing, or arithmetic. 372—218=154 or, 18·6 per cent. 284—30=254 30·6 per cent. No improvement at all equal to 33, or nearly 4 per cent |
| Gibraltar | 69 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bermuda | 90 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Portland | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dartmoor | 61 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| "Stirling Castle" | 5 | 301 | 255 | 273 | 829 | 130 | 327 | 372 | 101 | 444 | 284 | 175 | 390 | 264 | |
| Millbank | 5 | | 829 | | | | 829 | | | 829 | | | 829 | | |
| Pentonville | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lunatic Asylum | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sentence expired | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Licensed | 458 | Not classed 57 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Died | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 886 | 36·3 | 30·8 | 32·9 | 829 | 15·7 | 39·4 | 44·9 | 12·2 | 53·6 | 34·2 | 21·1 | 47·0 | 31·9 | |
| | 57 | | 100 | | | | 100 | | | 100 | | | 100 | | |
| Classed, &c. | 829 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

# III.

## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER ON THE CONVICT PRISON, PORTSMOUTH.

*Portsmouth Convict Prison,*
*January* 10 1856.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE the honour, in compliance with your directions, to submit for your information the usual annual report of the state and sanitary condition of this prison, and must beg to refer you to the enclosed tabular forms, marked 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, in which is exhibited the amount of disease, and how it has been disposed of, including the number of sick under treatment at the close of last year, and brought forward in this, of whom one died. Medical Officer's Report.

Variola, which was prevalent at the time of my forwarding my return for 1854, shortly assumed a confluent form and most virulent type, and did not fully disappear till the end of May; two cases terminating fatally.

Accidents for the period of these returns have been numerous, and some few of a serious nature (reported on at the time), one being followed by erysipelas and death; another was attended by fractury of the ribs and rupture of the spleen, the patient surviving the injure but a few days; and a third being compound fracture of the right leg, still under treatment in the infirmary, but doing well.

Phthisis and pulmonary tendencies to disease, which always manifest themselves more conspicuously after close and long imprisonment, has in four instances been attended with fatal results.

The infirmary being occupied entirely during the early part of the year, for a time, with small-pox, fifteen men were removed to the hospital ship "Briton," five of whom were invalided, two died of phthisis, and eight returned to the prison restored to health.

One case of mania, pronounced insane by enquiry of lunacy, in a prisoner received from Millbank, was eventually removed to Bethlehem.

One case of self-destruction was attempted by the infliction of a large wound in the throat by a convict of low intellect, who was invalided to "Stirling Castle."

Of the prisoners who have been received here at different times after long separate confinement, many were out of condition and delicate, and never acquired good health; others, again, severely

Medical Officer's Report.

ruptured and quite unable to the performance of hard labour, were, as opportunities offered, forwarded on to Dartmoor, although generally speaking, the men improved rapidly after their arrival, and the present standard of health is I consider most favourable.

The officers for the most part continue to enjoy good health.

I must beg to observe in conclusion, that the casual sick list continues large, although the attendance of the prisoners is, at a very early hour in the morning, and much to their discomfort, the malingerers' object being to obtain light labour rather than admission to the infirmary.

The provisions supplied have been with some few exceptions sound and wholesome.

The buildings have undergone little change since last report; they are in a cleanly condition, and ventilation good.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
JNO. W. BOWLER,
*Medal Officer.*

*To the Chairman and Directors*
*of Convict Prisons.*

## Table No. 1.

Medical Officer's Report.

Abstract of the Diseases of Patients admitted into the Infirmary of the Portsmouth Convict Prison for 1855.

| Diseases. | Remaining 31st Dec. 1854. | Admitted since. | Died. | Discharged. | Remaining 31st Dec. 1855. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Febrile diseases, &c. | | | | | |
| Febriculæ | 2 | 26 | — | 28 | — |
| Phlegmonous inflammations | 1 | 31 | — | 32 | — |
| Erysipelas | 1 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| Variolæ | 4 | 18 | 2 | 20 | — |
| Urticaria | — | 2 | — | 2 | — |
| Mental diseases, &c. | | | | | |
| Mania | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Vertigo | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Amaurosis | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Epilepsia | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Diseases of the chest, &c. | | | | | |
| Cynanche tonsillaris | — | 7 | — | 7 | — |
| Bronchitis | — | 4 | — | 4 | — |
| Catarrhus | 1 | 38 | — | 39 | — |
| Hæmoptysis | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Phthisis | — | 6 | 4 | 2 | — |
| Pneumonia | — | 9 | — | 8 | 1 |
| Diseases of the primæ viæ. | | | | | |
| Dyspepsia | — | 15 | — | 15 | — |
| Constipatio | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Diarrhœa | — | 26 | — | 26 | — |
| Enternitis | — | 3 | — | 3 | — |
| Hæmorrhois | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Urinary Diseases. | | | | | |
| Dysuria | 1 | — | — | 1 | — |
| Testitis | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Cystitis | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Strictures | 1 | 1 | — | 2 | — |
| Syphilis | 1 | — | — | 1 | — |
| Of the eye. | | | | | |
| Ophthalmia | — | 5 | — | 5 | — |
| Of nutrition, &c. | | | | | |
| Muscular rheumatism | — | 13 | — | 12 | 1 |
| Debilitas | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Podagra | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Scrofula | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Accidents, &c. | | | | | |
| Scalds | 1 | 1 | — | 2 | — |
| Contusio | 4 | 104 | — | 105 | 3 |
| Vulnus | — | 28 | — | 28 | — |
| Fractures | — | 5 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Hernia | — | 2 | — | 2 | — |
| Abscesses | — | 6 | — | 6 | — |
| Ulcus | — | 11 | — | 10 | 1 |
| Perinio | — | 8 | — | 8 | — |
| Dislocatio | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Varicose veins | — | 5 | — | 5 | — |
| Of the skin, &c. | | | | | |
| Herpes | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Porrigo | — | 2 | — | 2 | — |
| Psoriasis | — | 2 | — | 2 | — |
| Lepra vulgaris | — | 3 | — | 3 | — |
| Total | 17 | 400 | 8 | 401 | 8 |

Medical Officer's Report.

## Table No. 2.

A List of Prisoners Removed from the Infirmary at the Portsmouth Convict Prison to the "Briton" Hospital Ship for further Treatment and Accommodation.

| Date of Removal, 1855. | Regulation Number. | Initials of Prisoner. | Disease or Cause of Removal. | Date of Discharge, &c. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| March 3 | 1,962 | E. B. | Scrofula | May 2 | Received back to prison. |
| ,, | 1,255 | J. M'C. | Cystitis, &c. | ,, 28 | Died. |
| ,, | 1,298 | W. W. | Phthisis | March 6 | ,, |
| ,, | 1,756 | J. R. | Cynanche ton. | May 5 | Received back to prison. |
| ,, | 1,407 | W. K. | Hæmoptysis | ,, | ,, |
| ,, | 1,401 | D. D. | Injury, wound of throat, self-inflicted | April 17 | Invalided to "Stirling Castle." |
| ,, | 2,380 | T. B. | Catarrhus | March 27 | Received back to prison. |
| ,, | 2,179 | T. J. | Dislocatio | June 13 | Invalided to "Stirling Castle" depôt. |
| ,, | 2,242 | B. S. | Rheumatalgia | May 5 | Received back to prison. |
| March 13 | 1,995 | B. R. | Hæmorrhois | June 13 | Invalided to "Stirling Castle" depôt. |
| ,, | 1,971 | J. S. Y. | General Debility | May 2 | Received back to prison. |
| ,, | 1,711 | D. M'K. | Phthisis incipient | June 13 | Invalided to "Stirling Castle" depôt. |
| ,, | 2,423 | H. S. | Rheumatalgia | ,, | ,, |
| ,, | 2,383 | J. H. | Contusion | May 5 | Received back to prison. |
| ,, | 2,197 | T. K. | General Debility | ,, 2 | ,, |

Medical Officer's Report.

TABLE No. 3.

A TABLE showing the Number of PRISONERS Treated in the Infirmary and other parts of the Prison for each Month in the Year 1855.

| Month. | Number Remaining in the Infirmary the month previous. | Number Admitted during the month. | Number died during the month. | Number Discharged during the month. | Number Remaining in the Infirmary at the end of the month. | Number Treated at the Casual Sick Visits and other parts of the Prison. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| January - | 17 | 40 | — | 30 | 27 | 1,270 |
| February - | 27 | 36 | 4 | 28 | 31 | 1,354 |
| March - | 31 | 54 | — | 57 | 28 | 1,602 |
| April - | 28 | 38 | 1 | 33 | 32 | 1,878 |
| May - - | 32 | 34 | — | 47 | 19 | 1,326 |
| June - - | 19 | 40 | — | 39 | 20 | 1,251 |
| July - - | 20 | 23 | — | 34 | 9 | 1,276 |
| August - | 9 | 44 | — | 27 | 26 | 1,348 |
| September - | 26 | 25 | 1 | 35 | 15 | 1,630 |
| October - | 15 | 25 | — | 24 | 16 | 1,278 |
| November - | 16 | 21 | 2 | 23 | 12 | 1,258 |
| December - | 12 | 20 | — | 24 | 8 | 1,325 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Total Number Admitted into the Infirmary during the Year - - | 400 |
| Total Number Died in the Infirmary, including 2 at "Briton" hospital ship - - - - - - - - - - - - | 10 |
| Total Number Discharged from the Infirmary during the Year - - | 401 |
| Total Number Treated at the Casual Sick Visits, &c., during the Year - | 16,796 |

## Table No. 4.—Deaths during the Year 1855.

| Reg. No. | Initials of Name. | Age. | Cause of Death. | Date of Death. | Date of admission into the Infirmary. | Date when received into the Prison. | Whence received. | Health on reception. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1,732 | G. G. | 32 | Variolæ | Feb. 7, 1855 | Jan. 28 1855 | Jan. 9 1854 | Millbank Prison | Good. |
| 714 | G. B. | 34 | Fracture of the fifth rib of the left side, and rupture of spleen, the result of accident. | „ 21 „ | Feb. 19 „ | July 29 1852 | „ „ | „ |
| 1,527 | J. K. | 19 | Phthisis | „ 21 „ | Dec. 21 1854 | April 28 1853 | „ „ | „ |
| 2,195 | J. C. | 60 | Variolæ | „ 28 „ | Feb. 22 1855 | Dec. 11 1854 | Dorchester „ | Tolerable. |
| 1,298* | W. W. | 21 | Pneumonia | Mar. 6 „ | Nov. 19 1854 | „ 28 1852 | Pentonville „ | Good. |
| 1,399 | T. S. | 19 | Phthisis | April 13 „ | Mar. 23 1855 | Feb. 22 1853 | „ „ | „ |
| 1,255* | J. M'C. | 27 | Phthisis and disease of bladder. | May 28 „ | Jan. 11 „ | Dec. 27 1852 | Millbank „ | „ |
| 2,315 | A. B. | 20 | Phthisis | Sept. 26 „ | Aug. 27 „ | Feb. 13 1855 | Parkhurst „ | Delicate. |
| 2,172 | W. H. | 28 | Erysipelas, the result of accident. | Nov. 5 „ | Oct. 27 „ | Dec. 11 1854 | Dorchester „ | Not very good. |
| 1,567 | J. K. | 21 | Phthisis | „ 7 „ | Aug. 5 „ | June 1 1853 | Pentonville „ | Good. |

* Died at the "Briton" hospital ship, whence they were removed for further accommodation.

TABLE No. 5.

ABSTRACT of the NUMBERS of PRISONERS Received, Removed, and Remaining from 1st January 1855 to 31st December 1855.

Medical Officer's Report.

| Received. | No. | Removed. | No. |
|---|---|---|---|
| From Millbank Prison - - | 176 | Transerred to Millbank Prison - | 5 |
| „ Pentonville „ - - - | 230 | „ Pentonville „ - | 2 |
| „ Parkhurst „ - - | 17 | „ Portland „ - | 2 |
| „ Portland „ - - - | 8 | Embarked for Western Australia | 161 |
| „ Wakefield „ - - - | 187 | „ Gibraltar - - | 59 |
| „ Leeds „ - - - | 34 | „ Bermuda - - | 90 |
| „ Preston „ - - - | 32 | Invalided to Dartmoor Prison - | 81 |
| „ Perth „ - - - | 49 | „ "Stirling Castle" Hulk | 8 |
| „ Dartmoor „ - - - | 1 | „ Bethlem Lunatic Asylum, St. George's in the Fields, London | 1 |
| „ Northampton - - - | 26 | | |
| „ Leicester „ - - - | 30 | Died - - - - - | 10 |
| „ Exeter County Gaol - - | 1 | Discharged on expiration of sentence - - - - - - | 2 |
| „ Metropolitan Police - - | 16 | | |
| „ "Defence" Hulk - - | 5 | Discharged by Licence - - | 458 |
| „ "Warrior" „ - - | 3 | Remaining in the prison 31st December 1855 - - - | 1,019 |
| „ "Stirling Castle" - - | 14 | | |
| „ Bermuda, viâ the barque "Sir G. F. Seymour" - | 54 | | |
| „ Gibraltar, viâ the ship "Herefordshire" - | 3 | | |
| Remaining in the prison, 1st January 1855 - - - | 1,022 | | |
| Total - - - | 1,908 | Total - - - | 1,908 |

# REPORT

OF THE

# DIRECTORS OF CONVICT PRISONS

ON THE

## DISCIPLINE AND MANAGEMENT

OF THE

# HULK ESTABLISHMENT.

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# HULK ESTABLISHMENT.

## REPORT,

For the year 1855, of the Directors of Convict Prisons, made, as regards the Hulks, in pursuance of the Act 5 Geo. 4. cap. 84. and 13 & 14 Vict. cap. 39.;—specifying their State of Repair; the Behaviour and Conduct of the Officers, and of the Convicts; the Amount of the Earnings of the Convicts, and the Expense of the Establishment; and such other Matters relating to the Discipline and Management thereof as they shall deem expedient, or the Secretary of State shall direct.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.*

To the Right Honourable Sir GEORGE GREY, G.C.B.,
*Secretary of State for the Home Department.*

Sir, 45, *Parliament Street*, 1856.

We have the honour to submit our Report for the year 1855. on the hulks in which convicts are confined at Woolwich and Portsmouth:

These are the following; viz., at Woolwich, the "Warrior" and "Defence," for the accommodation of the convicts employed on the public works respectively at the Dockyard and Royal Arsenal, and the "Unité" hospital ship for the reception of the sick convicts belonging to these two labour hulks; at Portsmouth, the "Stirling Castle" invalid hulk for convicts unfitted by disease or otherwise for even light labour, and the "Briton," used as an hospital ship for the invalid hulk.

### *State of Repairs.*

The hulks, with the exception of the "Warrior," are all in a good state, and have not needed any extensive repairs. The "Warrior" is incapable of any further repairs, being thoroughly rotten in all parts, and will barely serve to accommodate the

State of repairs.

officers and prisoners on board until the new prison building at Chatham shall be ready for the reception of convicts, when it is proposed to transfer the prisoners to that establishment from the "Warrior."

## *Conduct of the Officers.*

Conduct of the officers.

The general conduct of the subordinate officers and servants throughout the year has been favourably reported on by the Governors of the different hulks, and the dismissals for misconduct have not been numerous. A new class of officers, called temporary guards, has been necessarily established at the "Defence" hulk, in consequence of the withdrawal of the aid of the usual military guard at the Royal Arsenal. Their duties have been chiefly to act as sentries or lookouts, to prevent the escape of convicts from the public works, and to be in readiness in case of any combined insubordination; and their employment has so far prevented any inconvenience being experienced from the withdrawal of the military guard.

## *Number and Disposal of Prisoners.*

Number and disposal of prisoners.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Remaining in confinement, 1st January, 1855 | 1,356 | |
| Received during the year - - - - | 1,235 | |
| | | 2,591 |
| Removed to Millbank Prison - - | 5 | |
| ,, Portland - - - - | 2 | |
| ,, Dartmoor - - - - | 100 | |
| ,, Portsmouth - - - | 22 | |
| ,, Western Australia - - | 229 | |
| ,, Bermuda - - - - | 100 | |
| ,, Gibraltar - - - - | 66 | |
| ,, Spike Island (Ireland) - - | 15 | |
| ,, Taunton Gaol - - - | 2 | |
| ,, Birmingham - - - | 2 | |
| ,, Lunatic asylums - - - | 6 | |
| Discharged by orders of licence - - | 633 | |
| ,, Pardon - - - - | 1 | |
| ,, Conditional pardon - - | 2 | |
| ,, Expiration of sentence - - | 1 | |
| Escapes - - - - - - - - | 3 | |
| Deaths (one by suicide) - - - - | 41 | |
| | | 1,230 |
| Remaining in confinement 31st December - | | 1,361 |
| | | 2,591 |

## *Condition and Treatment of the Prisoners.*

Condition and treatment of the prisoners.

The convicts have nothing to complain of in their general treatment or condition as prisoners confined in hulks. Their individual complaints to the visiting director have been inquired into and recorded, with the decision that has been come to in each case. These complaints have not been numerous, nor proved to be well founded.

## *Moral and Religious Improvement and School Instruction.*

Moral and religious improvement, and school instruction.

The moral and religious improvement of the prisoners, and their progress in school instruction, are spoken of as favourably as can be expected in prison hulks, by the chaplains in their annexed Annual Reports.

## *Conduct of the Prisoners.*

Conduct of the prisoners.

The conduct of the prisoners generally in the hulks has been good, considering the difficulties in the way of proper discipline and observation in such places of confinement, and their behaviour, while employed at the public works, has been for the most part orderly and satisfactory. There has been a certain amount of discontent and comparative unwillingness to obedience and exertion observable among the convicts undergoing sentences of penal servitude, who contrast their position as regards encouragement to good conduct unfavourably with that of the convicts under sentence of transportation; but it has resulted in no combined display of ill feeling, and some of this class having reached a period of their sentence, in which they have begun to experience the authorized prison rewards for good conduct, there is apparently less danger of any serious result from the ill-feeling alluded to.

## *Health of the Prisoners.*

Health of the prisoners.

The health of the prisoners confined in the labour hulks has been stated by the Medical Officer in his annexed Report to have been unusually good during the year. Six deaths have occurred among the convicts at Woolwich, on an average daily number of 947, of which one was caused by accident on the public works, and another was a case of suicide.

At the "Stirling Castle" invalid hulk the number of deaths, 35, has been greater than in the year preceding, but under the average of the last three years. The particulars of deaths and diseases are given in the Medical Officer's annexed Report.

### *Employment and Industry of the Prisoners.*

The convicts on the public works on the Royal Arsenal and Dockyard have been employed chiefly in the work of ordinary labourers in such establishments, viz., at the former, in removing and stacking timber, shipping and unloading stores, cleaning shot and shell, carting materials, repairing roads, &c., &c. and in the latter in removing and stacking timber, iron, ballast, and stores, carting and breaking stones, loading and unloading coals, &c., &c.

The remainder have been employed in the necessary work for the hulks themselves, including a few artificers, for whom it is much to be regretted, there are no sufficient opportunities of employment on the public works.

The value of the labour performed, by an average daily number of 622 men, has been estimated at 16,621*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*, giving the rate per man of 26*l.* 14*s.* 5½*d.* The labour performed by convicts at prison labour, such as carpenters, blacksmiths, painters, shoemakers, tailors, &c., as detailed in the Appendix, has been valued at 2,789*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.* The total value of the labour from both hulks being thus 19,411*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.*, and the average total number of prisoners confined being 947, the average rate per man may be taken at 20*l.* 10*s.*, for the whole year. Of the above average number of prisoners, however, nearly one fifth are daily non-effective for work, being composed of men attending school, sick, and under punishment, so that the value of the labour of each man actually employed may be taken as exceeding 25*l.*

The willingness and industry of the convicts have been favourably reported on generally by the authorities of the departments under which they have been employed, and allowance being made for the state of discontent and excitement before alluded to as prevailing among the prisoners under sentence of penal servitude, the officers have succeeded in enforcing a fair degree of industry among the convicts employed upon the public works.

### *Expenses.*

Expenses.

The expenditure of the hulks during the year has been 45,700*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*; in this sum is included 3,576*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* paid as gratuities or earnings to convicts discharged on licence or otherwise, and is reduced by sundry receipts and value of productive labour to 44,893*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*

General observations.

### *General Observations.*

The certain prospect of at least one of the hulks being necessarily discontinued on the opening of Chatham Prison in

the course of the ensuing summer, is a source of great gratification to all concerned in the management of these places of confinement, which, from their nature, can never be made really reformatory. Their tendency is continually to fall off in order and discipline, and nothing but the most active and zealous performance of duty, by all the officers, can effectually prevent this result.

During the year (as already mentioned) there has been cause for anxiety as to the disposition and conduct of the convicts undergoing sentences of penal servitude, but the superior officers have most creditably succeeded, with the aid of their subordinates, in preventing outbreak, or more than murmuring, and the ill-feeling has apparently in a great measure subsided.

The number of discharges on licence during the year has been 633, making, with 650 previously released, a total of 1,283 thus discharged since the commencement of the operation of the new Act of Parliament. The revocations of licence during the year have been 28; there had previously been 6 revoked, and thus the whole number of revocations since the Act came into operation has been 34.

The Chaplains report favourably of the information gained of many who have been discharged on licence, and there appears to be fair ground for believing that, where honest employment could be obtained, there has been no disposition generally among the licensed convicts to relapse into habitual crime.

We have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servants,
J. Jebb, Colonel, R.E.,
*Chairman*,
I. S. Whitty,
*Director of Convict Prisons.*

# APPENDIX.

## I.

## REPORT OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE "WARRIOR" CONVICT HULK AT WOOLWICH.

"Warrior" Hulk, Woolwich,
January 1856.

GENTLEMEN,

Report of the Governor of the "Warrior" Hulk.

IN accordance with the rules of the convict service, I have the honour to forward my annual Report on the state, discipline, &c. of this Hulk for the year ending the 31st of December 1855.

*Conduct of the Officers.*—I believe I am quite justified in stating that the officers now in this establishment may be considered a really efficient body, and that they endeavour to carry out their duties faithfully and zealously. The dockyard authorities speak most favourably of their activity and usefulness. I regret, however, to say that during the past year several have been dismissed for misconduct. I must avail myself of this opportunity to express my entire satisfaction of the manner in which the Deputy Governor, Mr. Gosden, has aided me in maintaining the order and discipline of the establishment.

*Number and Disposal of Prisoners :—*

| | |
|---|---|
| Prisoners remaining 31 December 1854 | 441 |
| Since received | 359 |
| | 800 |
| Sent abroad, removed to other prisons, pardoned, discharged on licence, &c. | 371 |
| Prisoners remaining 31st December 1855 | 429 |

Detailed statement, see Appendix, A.

*Sentences, how carried out.*—The sentences have been carried out by imprisonment in the Hulk and labour for the Admiralty in the dockyard, a very limited number having been employed for the necessary trades for the service of the Hulk. See Appendix, B and C.

Each prisoner has attended school regularly once during the week, and the orders on this head have been strictly adhered to.

The recommendation of prisoners for licence, &c., have been observed in accordance with the prescribed rules.

*Treatment of the Prisoners.*—The prisoners have been treated in strict conformity with the regulations, but without harshness or severity; at the same time, discipline has been maintained with firmness and impartiality. The prisoners have had the option of seeing the Governor daily, for the purpose of preferring any complaint or application.

*Conduct of the Prisoners.*—On this head I have reason to report favourably; the prisoners have behaved well both in the hulk and on the works, notwithstanding a certain degree of dissatisfaction being apparent in the men under sentence of penal servitude. Some very praiseworthy actions are recorded of more than one prisoner during the year, while employed in the dockyard. One case in particular is worthy of especial mention: I allude to that of a prisoner who jumped into the basin and rescued a free labourer from drowning, particulars of which were at the time forwarded to the Directors.

*Convict Labour and Earnings.*—In Appendix D, it will be seen that the average daily number of prisoners have been 438, this being an increase of two upon the average number of last year. The value of the earnings for this year, ending the 31st December 1855, amounts to 9,959*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* Upon reference to the Report of last year, it appears that the earnings were calculated to be 9,326*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*, and thus in the present year there is an increase of 632*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* beyond the earnings of the year ending 31st December 1854. There has also been an increase in the number of working hours during the year.

*Employment of the Prisoners.*—The prisoners have been employed in the dockyard on various labours; such as removing and stacking timber, removing iron, ballast, stores, &c., weighing and stacking ditto, testing cables, removing coals, weighing and stacking ditto, picking oakum, assisting shipwrights and riggers, docking and undocking vessels, and numerous other duties. I have gratification in stating that the labour performed by the convicts during the past year appears to have given satisfaction to the dockyard authorities. A party of fifteen prisoners have very frequently filled, carted, and carried sacks of coals from vessels alongside the wharfs to the amount of from one hundred to a hundred and thirty tons per day.

A small proportion have been employed for the service of the hulk as tailors, shoemakers, carpenters, washermen, &c.

*Escapes.*—During the past year seven prisoners have attempted to escape, five of them unsuccessfully. The other two partially succeeded. One of these was apprehended two days after. The other was recaptured in about a fortnight's time and restored to the hulk, and thus during the year not one prisoner from this establishment remains at large.

*Abuses.*—I am not aware of any existing abuses.

*State of the Hulk.*—Respecting the condition of the "Warrior" any statement would be superfluous, seeing that it is already well known that she is unfit for further use, and that it is the intention of the Government to remove the prisoners to another establishment.

Report of the Governor of the "Warrior" Hulk.

*Prisoners discharged on Licence.*—Before concluding my Report, I must beg leave to mention that out of 166 prisoners discharged during the year on licence from this hulk, not one has as yet returned with licence revoked; and but one, to my knowledge, has proved himself unworthy of the clemency extended to him. I have received numerous letters from the discharged prisoners expressive of gratitude for the advice given them from time to time, more particularly on their liberation. The certificates also of the clergymen of the parishes in which many of these men are employed afford ample testimony of their industry and well doing.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
W. E. Buller, *Governor.*

*To the Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

(A.)—Annual Statement of the Removal of Convicts to and from "Warrior" Hulk between 1st January and 31st December 1855.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total No. 1, January 1855 | | | | | 441 |
| Received during the Year from— | | | | | |
| Convict Prisons | Millbank | | 133 | | |
| | Pentonville | | 34 | | |
| | Perth | | 42 | | |
| | | | | 209 | |
| County and Borough Prisons under contract with the Government. | Wakefield | | 14 | | |
| | Leeds | | 28 | | |
| | Northampton | | 25 | | |
| | Bath | | 23 | | |
| | Reading | | 17 | | |
| | Bedford | | 23 | | |
| | Leicester | | 7 | | |
| Licences revoked | | | 13 | | |
| | | | | 150 | |
| Total | | | | | 800 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Disposed of during the Year— | | | | |
| Transfers to Convict Prison, &c. | Portsmouth | 3 | | |
| | Birmingham | 2 | | |
| | Portland | 1 | | |
| | Millbank | 1 | | |
| | | | 7 | |
| Embarkations | Gibraltar | 31 | | |
| | Western Australia | 114 | | |
| | Bermuda | 50 | | |
| | | | 195 | |
| Discharged per licence | | 166 | | |
| | | | 166 | |
| Free Pardon | | 1 | | |
| *Escaped | | 1 | | |
| Death by suicide | | 1 | | |
| | | | 3 | |
| Number remaining 31 December 1855 | | | 429 | |
| Total | | | 800 | |

* This convict was apprehended at Barnet two days after his escape.

Report of the Governor of the "Warrior" Hulk.

(B.)—STATEMENT of the Value of Labour performed in the Royal Dockyard, Woolwich, by CONVICTS in the Year 1855.

| Description of Work. | Quantities. | Prices. | Value. £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Removing and stacking, &c., cubic timber | 3,553,798 cubic feet | 12s. per 1,000 feet | 2,132 | 5 | 6 |
| Removing and stacking, &c., superficial timber | 1,543,499 sup. do. | 4s. 6d. „ | 347 | 5 | 9 |
| Removing iron, ballast, stores, &c. | 28,597 tons | 6d. per ton | 714 | 18 | 6 |
| Weighing and stacking ditto | 28,978 „ | 4d. „ | 482 | 19 | 4 |
| Removing coals | 44,313 „ | 7d. „ | 1,292 | 9 | 3 |
| Weighing and stacking ditto | 15,405 „ | 5d. „ | 320 | 18 | 9 |
| Carting sundries | 4,591 loads | 6d. per load | 114 | 15 | 6 |
| Breaking stones | 2,735 bushels | 5d. per bushel | 56 | 19 | 7 |
| Picking oakum | 11,285 lbs. | 5½d per lb. | 258 | 12 | 3 |
| Spinning and balling oakum | 220 cwt. | 2s. per cwt. | 22 | 0 | 0 |
| Cutting up old rope | 229 tons | 2s. per ton | 22 | 18 | 0 |
| Removing and stacking old rope, &c. | 3,006 tons | 6d. per ton | 75 | 3 | 0 |
| Odd jobs not measurable:—assisting shipwrights, and riggers, cleaning out steamers, docks, sawmills, and yard, testing and cleaning chain cables, and anchors, &c., cutting up old iron, docking vessels, removing boats, pitch scraping, masting vessels, &c. &c. | 264,770 hours at 10 hours per day equal to 26,477 | At 2s. 4d per day. | 3,088 | 19 | 8 |
| | | £ | 8,930 | 5 | 1 |

(C.)—ABSTRACT of Labour performed by the CONVICTS in the "Warrior" Convict Ship, in the Year from the 1st of January 1855, to the 31st of December 1855, and the Time occupied therein, the average daily Number of Prisoners being 438.

| Employment. | Time actually employed. Number of Hours. | Days of ten hours each. | Value at | Amount. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Days. hrs. | s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| Labour in the Royal Dockyard | 725,111 | 72,511 1 | 2 5½ & a Fraction. | 8,930 5 1 | 8.930 5 1 |
| Carpenters | 4,580 | 458 0 | 2 6 | 57 3 0 | |
| Blacksmiths | 2,970 | 297 0 | 2 6 | 37 2 6 | |
| Painters | 2,640 | 264 0 | 2 6 | 33 0 0 | 154 5 0 |
| Coopers | 320 | 32 0 | 2 6 | 4 0 0 | |
| Bookbinders | 1,830 | 183 0 | 2 6 | 22 17 6 | |
| Shoemakers | 10,630 | 1,063 0 | 1 6 | 79 14 6 | |
| Tailors, &c. | 10,130 | 1,013 0 | 1 6 | 75 19 6 | |
| Washermen | 28,370 | 2,837 0 | 1 6 | 212 15 6 | 443 2 0 |
| Cooks | 7,300 | 730 0 | 1 6 | 54 15 0 | |
| Tinmen | 2,650 | 265 0 | 1 6 | 19 17 6 | |
| General prison labour, boats, &c. | 69,160 | 6,916 0 | 1 3 | 432 5 0 | 432 5 0 |
| Total | 865,691 | 86,591 1 | - - | - - - | 9,959 17 1 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Total number of hours on public works | 764,157 |
| Deduct for other causes | 39,064 |
| Leaving a total of hours on the public works of | 725,111 |

(D.) STATEMENT showing the average Number of CONVICTS confined in the "WARRIOR" Hulk, Woolwich, during the Year ending 31st December, 1855, and their Earnings, as calculated according to reasonable Wages, for the different descriptions of Work performed per Day of 10 hours, into which all the time employed has been reduced, January 1855.

| Average daily Number of Prisoners. | Number of Days' Labour performed. | | | | Total estimated Value. | Annual Average per Head. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | By superior Artificers. | | By ordinary Labourers. | | | |
| | Number of Days, 10 Hours each. | Estimated Value. | Number of Days, 10 Hours each. | Estimated Value. | | |
| | | £ s. d. | | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| 438 | 12,340 | 154 5 0 | 853,351 | 9,805 12 1 | 9,959 17 1 | 22 14 9½ |

Report of the Governor of the "Warrior" Hulk.

## (E.) "Warrior" Hulk, Woolwich.

*Daily Distribution of Time.*

| Occupation. | In Summer (longest day). | | | In Winter (shortest day). | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | A.M. A.M. | H. | M. | A.M. A.M. | H. | M. |
| Prisoners rise and are let out by classes to wash | 5.30 to 6.0 | = 0 | 30 | 5.30 to 6.0 | = 0 | 30 |
| Breakfast, officers and prisoners | 6.0 „ 6.30 | = 0 | 30 | 6.0 „ 6.30 | = 0 | 30 |
| Cleaning wards and stowing hammocks | 6.30 „ 6.55 | = 0 | 25 | 6.30 „ 7.20 | = 0 | 50 |
| Dockyard gates open for admission of workmen, and prisoners paraded for labour | 6.55 „ 7.10 | = 0 | 15 | 7.20 „ 7.30 | = 0 | 10 |
| Prisoners at labour | 7.10 „ 12.0 | = 4 | 50 | 7.30 „ 1.20 | = 4 | 30 |
| Labourers leave work, and prisoners return on board for dinner | - - 12.0 | = 1 | 0 | - - 12.0 | 1 | 0 |
| Prisoners parade for labour | - - 1.0 P.M. | | | - - 1.0 P.M. | | |
| | P.M. P.M. | | | P.M. P.M. | | |
| Resume labour | 1.10 „ 5.45 | = 4 | 35 | 1.0 „ 4.15 | = 3 | 15 |
| Mustering, washing, &c. | 5.0 „ 6.0 | = 1 | 0 | 4.15 „ 5.10 | = 0 | 55 |
| Supper, officers and prisoners | 6.0 „ 6.30 | = 0 | 30 | 5.10 „ 5.45 | = 0 | 35 |
| Evening prayers and school | 6.30 „ 8.0 | = 1 | 30 | 5.45 „ 7.30 | = 1 | 45 |
| Slinging hammocks | 8.0 „ 8.30 | = 0 | 30 | 7.30 „ 8.0 | = 0 | 30 |
| All prisoners in their hammocks | 9.0 | = 0 | 30 | 8.30 | = 0 | 30 |
| | Total from A.M. P.M. | | | Total from A.M. P.M. | | |
| | 5.30 „ 9.0 | =15 | 30 | 5 30 „ 8.30 | =15 | 0 |

### Abstract of the above.

| | Summer. H. | M. | | Winter. H. | M. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Meals | 2 | 0 | — | 2 | 5 |
| Out-of-door labour, including mustering to and from labour | 9 | 5 | — | 7 | 55 |
| In-door occupation and evening instruction | 4 | 25 | — | 5 | 6 |
| Total | 15 | 30 | — | 15 | 6 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Working days | 308 |
| Average number of hours per day | 7½ |
| Daily average number of prisoners | 438 |
| „ Effective for labour | 420 |
| „ Public department | 312 |
| „ Prison labour | 43 |
| „ Invalids | 2 |
| „ Cell confinement | 3 |
| „ Sick in hospital | 13 |
| „ School | 65 |

STATEMENT of OFFENCES and PUNISHMENTS during the Year 1855.

| Number of Offenders punished. | | | Number of Men not punished. | Number of Offences for which actual Punishment was inflicted. | | | | Total Number of Admonitions. | Average daily Number of Men in Prison. | Total No. of Prisoners during the Year. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| By Director. | By Governor. | Total. | | By Director. | By Governor. | Total. | Average No. of Offences daily. | | | |
| 8* | 209 | 217 | 583 | 8 | 416 | 424 | 1·16 (or 0·26 per cent.) | 111 | 438 | 800 |

* Corporal Punishment, 2.

## II.

## GOVERNOR'S REPORT.

"Defence" Convict Hulk,
January 5, 1856.

GENTLEMEN,

Report of the Governor of the "Defence" Hulk.

I BEG leave to forward my Report on the discipline and management of the "Defence" hulk, for the year ended the 31st December 1855.

*Conduct of Officers.*—The conduct of the officers has, during the past year, been highly satisfactory, and their duties have been performed with much zeal and attention.

Several newly-appointed officers have been dismissed for inefficiency or misconduct, but no officer of any standing in the service has been dismissed during the period alluded to.

Twelve temporary guards were appointed to the hulk in July, they have answered the purpose intended (preventing the escape of the convicts employed on the public works, Royal Arsenal) as well as could have been anticipated, performing their duties with zeal and attention.

*Treatment of Prisoners.*—The prisoners have been treated with every consideration consistent with their situation and a due regard to good order and discipline. Every effort has been made to encourage the well-disposed, and at the same time to restrain the evil-disposed and ill-conducted.

*Alterations and Repairs.*—There are no alterations or repairs required on board the hulk.

*Abuses.*—There are no abuses that I am aware of.

*Escapes.*—Two prisoners have escaped; eight attempted to escape but were captured shortly afterwards, owing to the vigilance of the police belonging to the Royal Arsenal and officers of the ship.

*Conduct of the Convicts.*—The general conduct of the convicts, both on board the hulk and on the public works, has been satisfactory. The prevalence of industry amongst them has been shown by the amount of their earnings, and it may truly be said that idleness, which is invariably punished, has been a rare offence.

From the 15th to the 24th February inclusive, the ice in the river rendered it impossible to land the prisoners for labour in the Royal Arsenal; they were also detained on board from the 25th April to the 10th May in consequence of the withdrawal of the military guard, and from the 10th May to the 10th July their labour was transferred to the Royal dockyard. On the 14th August the "Justitia" hulk, used for a considerable time past as a dinner

Report of the Governor of the "Defence" Hulk.

ship, was taken possession of by the Ordnance, and a temporary shed provided for the accommodation of the convicts during the dinner hour.

During these changes it might be anticipated that numerous offences against the prison rules would be committed by so large a body of men collected together in an open shed; such, however, was not the case; in fact, not a single prisoner was reported for misconduct during the hour set apart for meals during the whole period.

Harsh and cruel treatment, or unfeeling neglect on the part of the officers placed over them, will cause men belonging to this unfortunate class to commit acts of a most savage and brutal nature, but I am firmly convinced that with fair and impartial treatment (no matter how strict the discipline may be, indeed all prisoners will admit that where in association the stricter the discipline the greater will be the amount of real comfort to all concerned), they may be made to perform any amount or description of labour, and conduct themselves with propriety and decorum.

The prisoners continue to take great interest in their class rings and badges, never failing to apply at once for the correction of any accidental error concerning them.

The penal servitude men also take great interest in their advancement to the different stages. I trust I may be pardoned for expressing a sincere hope that those amongst them who prove themselves by their industry and orderly conduct deserving of the indulgence, may be liberated with a licence some months previous to the expiration of their sentence, feeling confident it would have a very good effect upon the prisoners generally, and render the task of keeping them in order infinitely less difficult than at present.

I continue to receive intelligence from time to time from those prisoners who have been liberated on licence, most of whom are leading a reputable and honest course of life.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

S. Byrne, *Governor.*

*To the Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

Report of the Governor of the "Defence" Hulk.

## Number and Disposal of Prisoners during the Year 1855.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| On Board 1st January 1855 | – | – | 526 |
| Received:— | | | |
| Millbank | 35 | | |
| Pentonville | 12 | | |
| Portland | 2 | | |
| Wakefield | 69 | | |
| Preston | 12 | | |
| Leeds | 13 | | |
| Leicester | 57 | | |
| Northampton | 18 | | |
| Bath | 5 | | |
| Reading | 11 | | |
| Bedford | 38 | | |
| Perth | 92 | | |
| Revocation of Licence | 9 | | 373 |
| | | | 899 |
| Transferred:— | | | |
| Millbank | 3 | | |
| Portland | 1 | | |
| Portsmouth | 5 | | |
| "Stirling Castle" | 2 | | |
| | | 11 | |
| Embarked:— | | | |
| Western Australia | 115 | | |
| Bermuda | 50 | | |
| Gibraltar | 35 | | |
| | | 200 | |
| Removed: | | | |
| Lunatic Asylum | 1 | | |
| Taunton Gaol | 2 | | |
| | | 3 | |
| Discharged with Licence | – – | 189 | |
| Escaped | – – | 2 | |
| Died | – – | 5 | |
| | | | 410 |
| Remaining on Board, 1st January 1856:—Total | – – | – – | 489 |

STATEMENT of the VALUE of LABOUR performed in the Royal Arsenal and Royal Dockyard at Woolwich, by CONVICTS, during the Year 1855.

Report of the Governor of the "Defence" Hulk.

| Description of Work. | Quantities. | Rate. | Amount. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | £ | *s.* | *d.* |
| Removing and stacking timber | 2,693,031 cubic feet | 12*s.* per 1,000 cubic feet | 1,615 | 16 | 4 |
| Do. do. | 5,986,944 sup. feet | 4*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 sup. ft. | 1,347 | 1 | 3 |
| Removing iron ballast, &c. | 9,077 tons | 6*d.* per ton | 226 | 18 | 6 |
| Weighing and stacking ballast, &c. | 9,204 tons | 4*d.* „ | 153 | 8 | 0 |
| Breaking stones | 5,992 bushels | 5*d.* per bushel | 124 | 16 | 8 |
| Weeding | 19,309 sup. yards | 1*s.* 6*d.* per 100 yards | 14 | 9 | 7 |
| Raising, discharging, and removing mud | 3,150 tons | 5½*d.* per ton | 72 | 3 | 9 |
| Shipping and unshipping stores | 70,567 tons | 6*d.* „ | 1,764 | 3 | 6 |
| Cleaning shot and shell | 184,189 No. | ½*d.* each | 383 | 14 | 6 |
| Carting sundries | 18,290 loads | 6*d.* per load | 457 | 5 | 0 |
| Digging gravel | 4,831 cubic yards | 5*d.* per yard | 100 | 12 | 11 |
| Making concrete | 329 yards | 1*s.* „ | 16 | 9 | 0 |
| Odd jobs not measureable: cleaning saw-mills, sheds, steamers, drains, ditches, cadets' barracks, and docks, repairing grummetts and wads, and butt and roads, assisting tradesmen, riggers, and shipwrights, docking vessels, removing boats, &c. &c. &c. | 121,263½ hours at 10 hours per day, 12,126 days 3½ hrs. | 2*s.* 4*d.* per day | 1,414 | 14 | 10 |
| | | Total | 7,691 | 13 | 10 |

ABSTRACT of LABOUR performed by the CONVICTS in the "Defence" Hulk, in the Year from 1st January to 31st December 1855 and the Time occupied therein, the daily average Number of Prisoners being 509.

| Employment. | | | Time actually employed. | | | Value. | Amount. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Number of Hours. | Number of Days. | | | | |
| | | | | Days. | Hrs. | s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| ORDNANCE and ADMIRALTY. | Labour in the Royal Arsenal and Royal Dockyard | | 659,288 | 65,928 | 8 | 2 4 | | 7,691 13 10 |
| PRISON - - | Superior Artificers | Carpenters | 6,914 | 691 | 4 | 2 6 | 86 8 6 | |
| | | Smiths | 2,819 | 281 | 9 | 2 6 | 35 4 9 | |
| | | Tinkers | 1,884 | 188 | 4 | 2 6 | 23 11 0 | |
| | | Painters | 5,767 | 576 | 7 | 2 6 | 72 1 9 | |
| | | Sawyers | 2,547 | 254 | 7 | 2 6 | 31 16 9 | |
| | | Coopers | 1,456 | 145 | 6 | 2 6 | 18 4 0 | |
| | | Ropemakers | 2,886 | 288 | 6 | 1 6 | 21 12 11 | |
| | | Bookbinders | 2,205 | 220 | 5 | 2 6 | 27 11 3 | |
| | | Upholsterers | 303 | 30 | 3 | 2 6 | 3 15 9 | |
| | | | | | | | | 320 6 8 |
| | Inferior Artificers | Shoemakers | 13,363 | 1,336 | 3 | 1 6 | 100 4 6 | |
| | | Tailors | 15,963 | 1,596 | 3 | 1 6 | 119 14 6 | |
| | | Washers | 27,053 | 2,705 | 3 | 1 6 | 202 18 0 | |
| | | Cooks | 14,600 | 1,460 | 0 | 1 6 | 109 10 0 | |
| | | | | | | | | 532 7 0 |
| | Boats, nurses at hospital, &c. | | 145,216 | 14,521 | 6 | 1 3 | - - - | 907 12 0 |
| | | | | | | | Total - | 9,451 19 6 |

STATEMENT showing the average Number of PRISONERS confined in this Hulk during the Year ending 31st December 1855, and their Earnings, as calculated according to reasonable Wages, for the different Descriptions of Work performed per Day of 10 Hours, into which all the Time employed has been reduced.

Report of the Governor of the "Defence" Hulk.

| Average daily Number of Prisoners. | Number of Days Labour performed. | | | | Total estimated Value. | Annual Average per Head. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | By superior Artificers. | | By ordinary Labourers. | | | |
| | Number of Days, of 10 Hours each. | Estimated Value. | Number of Days, of 10 Hours each. | Estimated Value. | | |
| | Days. Hrs. | £ s. d. | Days. Hrs. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| 509 | 2,678 1 | 320 6 8 | 87,548 3 | 9,131 12 10 | 9,451 19 6 | 18 11 5 |

WEEKLY RETURN showing the usual OCCUPATION of PRISONERS.

RETURN of Employment of Prisoners in the "Defence" Hulk for the Week ending 17th February 1855.

| General Occupation. | | Average Daily No. employed. | | Description of Work. | Average Daily No. employed. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ORDNANCE Working Parties (*as detailed opposite*)* | | – | 310 | ORDNANCE WORKING PARTIES. | |
| | | | | *Removing and stacking timber | 110 |
| | | | | Breaking stones | 21 |
| | | | | Shipping and unshipping stores | 37 |
| | | | | Cleaning shot and shell | 29 |
| | | | | Carting sundries | 35 |
| | | | | Digging gravel | 6 |
| | | | | Odd jobs not measurable | 1 |
| PRISON WORK (*as detailed opposite*)† | | 66 | | Making and repairing grummetts and wads | 12 |
| | | | | Repairing butt and roads | 38 |
| | | | | Assisting tradesmen | 21 |
| | | | | | 310 |
| Superior Artificers. | Carpenters | 3 | | | |
| | Smith | 1 | | | |
| | Tinker | 1 | | | |
| | Painter | 1 | | | |
| | Sawyer | 1 | | | |
| | Cooper | 1 | | | |
| | Ropemakers | 3 | | | |
| | Bookbinder | 1 | | | |
| Ordinary Artificers. | Shoemakers | 5 | | PRISON WORK.† | |
| | Tailors | 3 | | | |
| | Washers | 9 | | | |
| | Cooks | 4 | | | |
| | | | 99 | Boarders cleaning ship generally and attending on sick at hospital | 43 |
| SICK and unfit for labour | | 35 | | Boatmen | 16 |
| SCHOOL | | 60 | | Whitewashers | 4 |
| SEPARATE FOR PUNISHMENT (or other reasons) | | 5 | | Bed pickers | 3 |
| | | | 100 | | 66 |
| Average number on board daily | | | 509 | | |

Report of the Governor of the "Defence" Hulk.

STATEMENT of OFFENCES and PUNISHMENTS during the Year 1855.

| Number of Offenders punished. | | | Number of Men not punished. | Number of Offences for which actual Punishment was inflicted. | | | | Total Number of Admonitions. | Average daily Number of Men in the Prison. | Total No. of Prisoners during the Year. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| By Director. | By Governor. | Total. | | By Director. | By Governor. | Total. | Average No. of Offences daily. | | | |
| 20* | 299 | 319 | 580 | 22 | 618 | 640 | 1·8 (or 0·35 per cent) | 114 | 509 | 899 |

* Corporal Punishment, 8.

STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE of H. M. Convict Hulks at WOOLWICH and PORTSMOUTH, in the Year ended 31st March 1856.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Salaries of principal officers and clerks | 4,562 | 9 | 6 |
| Wages of subordinate officers and servants | 7,199 | 5 | 6 |
| Rations for officers and allowances in lieu thereof | 1,971 | 9 | 6 |
| Uniforms for officers and servants | 724 | 12 | 7 |
| Victualling prisoners | 15,805 | 4 | 11 |
| Clothing, &c. for prisoners | 4,678 | 15 | 2 |
| Bedding for prisoners | 274 | 17 | 0 |
| Medicines, surgical instruments, &c. | 383 | 5 | 1 |
| Medical comforts (extras for the sick) | 988 | 18 | 7 |
| Clothing and travelling expenses of prisoners on their liberation | 1,650 | 10 | 8½ |
| Gratuities to convicts | 3,576 | 1 | 8 |
| Furniture and fittings | 127 | 8 | 10 |
| Kitchen utensils, crockery, cutlery, &c. | 33 | 10 | 5 |
| Fuel and light for general purposes | 1,591 | 1 | 4 |
| Buildings, hulks, and ordinary repairs | 448 | 9 | 9½ |
| Soap, scouring, and cleaning articles | 272 | 12 | 6 |
| Brushes, brooms, and mops | 51 | 19 | 2 |
| Funeral expenses, inquests, &c. | 94 | 12 | 10 |
| Various small disbursements | 862 | 17 | 6½ |
| Rent, rates, and taxes | 402 | 12 | 10½ |
| Total | 45,700 | 15 | 6 |
| Deduct amount of sundry receipts and value of productive labour | 807 | 5 | 0 |
| Net expenditure | 44,893 | 10 | 6 |

## III.

## REPORT OF THE CHAPLAIN OF THE CONVICT HULKS, WOOLWICH.

GENTLEMEN, *Woolwich, January* 1856.

Report of the Chaplain of the Convict Hulks, Woolwich.

I HAVE the honour of submitting to you my annual Report of the moral and religious condition of the prisoners in this convict establishment for the past year, and in so doing I must express my thankfulness for the regularity, order, and health which have prevailed in my department during that time.

Every year's additional experience convinces me of the propriety of judging "with fear and trembling" of the state of convicts in a religious point of view. Deceit and cunning have almost invariably characterized their *previous* mode and habits of life; and as nothing but the grace of God can effectually counteract the evil propensities or renew the evil nature of any sinner's heart, so also can nothing less than "a *continuance* in well-doing" for a period sufficiently long, and under circumstances of fair trial and endurance, prove the genuineness of conversion and the sincerity of a man's profession. That there are many satisfactory instances of true and vital religion even in these unfavourable receptacles, the hulks, I have not the least doubt; and I may add that, if a poor prisoner can maintain the consistency of Christian character, and "walk humbly with God," during his probation *therein*, *his* will be good evidence of the *power* of that faith to which all things are possible, and he will, through its influence, return to society both useful and happy. Three years' abode in the ward of a hulk is a fearful ordeal,—the force of ridicule, profane abuse, and the continual pressure of temptation, are enough to baffle and appal men of high moral courage and of conscious integrity, and are, as might be expected, *too much* for the hesitating, the timid, and the less experienced of those who may "have run well" for a time. Such being the true state of things in these inconvenient places of imprisonment, you will not wonder that a chaplain's fears and misgivings should annually increase, lest, by mistaken credulity, he should consider that all is gold which glitters, and impose upon himself or others an erroneous opinion respecting his interesting, but difficult, charge. On the other hand, we need not be discouraged as to the result of a vigorous application of your penal and reformatory discipline, under appropriate arrangements, and provided our expectations be governed by reasonable consideration. A well-constructed prison, adapted for moral reflection and

Report of the Chaplain of the Convict Hulks, Woolwich.

mental exercise, as well as for bodily labour, would ensure the means of reforming and elevating its inmates, inuring them to active industry, and training them in the principles which control the *daily life* of a Christian; such a prison is much to be desired *here*. Meanwhile, I have the pleasure to report that, during the past year, all the existing means of instruction and improvement have been duly applied. On each Lord's day the usual public services have been observed; the chaplain taking two full services at the larger hulks and a lecture at the hospital; and, in his absence, the Scripture-reader and schoolmasters reading the service alternately morning and afternoon at all the ships; three full evening services have also been celebrated every week at the three hulks, in addition to the daily prayers and the evening prayers between decks.

At all these services the accustomed order, solemnity, and earnestness, and a decided improvement in the psalmody, have been observed; the latter necessarily varies a little, in proportion to the proficiency and skill in music of those prisoners who conduct the singing. A *casual* attendant at our public worship would undoubtedly be surprised, and deeply impressed, by the touching simplicity and glowing fervour of the responses, as well as by the close and silent attention of those affecting audiences to the Word of God both read and preached; but it requires the constant *presence* and *interest* of their appointed officers—governor, chaplain, or others,—to fully appreciate the tone, spirit, and feeling of our stated worshippers. If the prisoners in these hulks could proceed from "the great congregation," each man to his private cell, as they do in your well-adapted prisons, a far greater amount of serious consideration, self-examination, and prayer would be exercised than it is possible to secure amidst the din and confusion of associated wards; as it is, however, a large number of the prisoners are found to profit from these opportunities of Divine worship, and to spend their intervals of time in religious reading and reflection, as well as mental prayer; they have, likewise, real enjoyment in the meetings for *social* worship and reading which are still held, and with increasing usefulness, on the Sunday and certain week-day evenings, and which have also been attended by others who had previously cared little for their souls, but who, after such attendance, became more concerned about the service of God, and have testified to me their belief that a blessing has attended this means of grace; indeed, I have been much encouraged by the evident interest which has been taken in these occasions of social prayer. I have not received one report of misbehaviour or inattention at them, but have frequently heard of benefits derived from them, and of their affording a profitable escape and refuge from the great difficulties of attending to religious duties in the classes.

Daily interviews with prisoners attending the schools and with those under punishment in the cells have presented, as usual, many opportunities of usefulness; and the visitation of the sick in the hospital has afforded much cause of encouragement, and, not seldom, of peculiar anxiety. Prayers from the Liturgy and the expositions of Scripture meet with an attention which only *such* scenes of sickness, suffering, and sorrow can manifest, and which have also been

Report of the Chaplain of the Convict Hulks, Woolwich.

improved by the chaplain and Scripture-reader in daily attendance, exhortation, prayer, and the reading of Scripture from bed to bed. Although it is not easy, if, indeed, it be possible, to pronounce that actual conversion of heart has very often crowned our efforts, yet it is undeniable that God's blessing has been vouchsafed in awakening those who seemed dull and insensible, in producing strong compunctions for past sin, and in bringing some souls, as we earnestly hope, to true repentance and lively faith. These hospital duties are especially the means of discovering the terrible effects of parental neglect and bad example; the entire want of moral training, and much more of religious instruction and discipline, on the part of ungodly parents, is the source of untold miseries for both worlds to many whom I thus visit; and if legislators and philanthropists needed proofs of the deleterious influence upon youthful minds of tea-gardens and other places of amusement and public resort on the Sabbath, they may be found in awful luxuriance amidst the ignorance, profaneness, and hard infidelity which our convict hospitals continually display; drunkenness, tobacco-smoking, and the dangerous companionships to which they lead, are also repeatedly deplored by those who are now paying the penalty in imprisonment, and yet more in remorse, of that misconduct and crime which are the too frequent results.

The Lord's Supper has been duly administered at all the ships, and has, I believe, "strengthened and refreshed" many souls, as well of those who have since been either discharged on licence or sent abroad, as of such as are still remaining with us; these men have given satisfactory evidence of earnestness and sincerity, both before and after the celebration. No intelligent Christian would think of *urging*, or in anywise *stimulating*, prisoners to join in the Holy Communion; and I confess that a steady course of holy life and conduct by this class of men is to my mind stronger proof of an inward change than *eagerness* to partake of the Sacrament; whilst I believe that many sincere seekers of truth are walking in humility and uprightness who yet hesitate, from self-distrust, or possibly from mere timidity, to appear at the Lord's table, but of whom, nevertheless, I have good hope that, on their return to liberty, they will be found to be both reformed and renewed.

The schools at both hulks continue in full operation, and are amongst the most important and most effectual agencies for improving the condition of the prisoners. A high standard of attainment can hardly be fixed, or indeed expected, for a majority of those whose education in youth has been so exceedingly limited, and, in many instances, utterly neglected; but I trust that the accompanying tabular statements will show a good amount of progress by those who were more or less ignorant on reception. The evening schools, which were established for the winter months, are particularly useful *in hulks*, where the prisoners cannot enjoy the privacy of separate cells for self-improvement during the long and more dreary nights of that season; and many of them rejoice at this timely relief from the tedious monotony to which they would otherwise be doomed. The schoolmasters have been diligent in their vocation, which is more

Report of the Chaplain of the Convict Hulks, Woolwich.

honourable than easy; the task is trying and difficult to deal with men, *as scholars*, who are, chiefly from past habits of waywardness, untractable as well as untaught, and who, therefore, require that instruction should be given to them with judgment, simplicity, and much care; the rare combination of firmness, patience, and discretion is eminently needed by teachers of convicts; and they will require all our support in order to their successful use of the necessary authority and other qualifications of their office, whilst they can gain the confidence and respect of the prisoners whom they instruct only by the exercise of judicious kindness and gentleness of manner in conveying instruction. At the "Warrior," a recent alteration has been made by your authority in regard to school-attendance, each division of prisoners having only half a day's schooling in a week instead of a whole day's as formerly; by this arrangement the *lower* classes will make somewhat less of progress in learning, but the *better educated* classes will suffer no loss in that respect, whilst, in the amount of labour, and, consequently, in its value, there will be a considerable increase upon that of previous years.

To the prisoners generally the libraries supply much wholesome instruction; they appear to value the books which are lent to them, and for which they frequently renew their applications, manifesting an interest and pleasure in the useful and sound works which alone are furnished to them. The Holy Scriptures are not only read and explained in the schools, but are also supplied to each prisoner for private reading and meditation; and the chaplain takes every opportunity of pressing the sacred duty, *and the high privilege*, of a daily reading of some portion, however small, of that most blessed Book, "the fountain and well of truth;" the only real foundation of both *saving* and *practical* knowledge is thus endeavoured to be laid, on which alone can be raised a superstructure of moral and religious sentiments in the minds of those who have wandered in mazes of *error* as well as of *vice;* their mental no less than their physical energies are thus called forth, for the present and the future of their earthly pilgrimage, and a proper distinction is given to those powers which must be wielded in the struggles of life. Secular knowledge can only be safely and usefully intrusted to men with intellects sharpened by the *emergencies* of evil-doing, when it is superadded to that which "maketh wise unto salvation," and which will both rectify and control all that accompanies it. In this view, I cannot hesitate to believe that the lessons of Scripture, enforced in my public ministrations in the schools and in the hospitals, have, by God's blessing, the salutary effect of disposing and encouraging the prisoners in the perpetual routine of discipline, labour, and personal restraint. It is matter of thankfulness, and ground of confidence as to their future, to know, as we do, that so many of those who are sent either to distant parts, or to their freedom, have been *habituated* to the use of God's unerring Word, and may, therefore, feel *at home* in the study of it at their destination, and, to a considerable extent, familiar with its precepts, its promises, and its "strong consolation."

The "ticket-of-leave system" (so called) has undergone severe criticism and powerful animadversion, and has, I think, stood well the trial; it will, moreover, endure with advantage the stubborn test of facts and figures. The copies of some letters from licensed convicts, which I will take the liberty of appending to this report, indicate, as I conceive, a very hopeful state of things in those particular cases,—*in addition* to the numerous testimonials and certificates of magistrates, clergymen, and employers,—as to the industry and good conduct of discharged prisoners who have, *on such testimony*, applied for the balance of their gratuities. Of the whole number liberated from *these hulks*,—the least suitable of all your prisons for reformation,—since the commencement of the system of *licensing*, only about 3 per cent. have had their "tickets of leave" revoked; the numbers being,—

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| At the "Warrior," | Licenses granted | 383 | revoked | 13 |
| „ "Defence" | „ | 436 | „ | 12 |
| | | 819 | | 25 |

It is true that of some others nothing may be publicly known, whilst some are still unemployed and under suspicion; but in many such cases it might have been otherwise, if Government had been aided by the public in its benevolent efforts to restore those men to society for useful and honest labour. Many whose *probation* here was expiring have applied, through the chaplain, for employment from such persons as might naturally feel interested in them, but have met only with refusal, and frequently with discouragement, even when their prison conduct has been good, and so stated to their referees. I have known unfavourable replies given to men of whom there has been very strong reason to believe that they would have answered all reasonable expectations of good conduct and industry. I fear also that those who bring sweeping accusations against the system of licensing prisoners frequently refuse credit for such as have gone forth and are living "in favour with God and man," because these men will, from commendable motives, conceal their past history, and shrink from observation in their present course of integrity, from a deep sense of shame for former folly and wickedness.

The parochial clergy have, for the most part, shown much kindness and zeal in procuring employment for convicts about to be discharged on licence, and have not failed to encourage and to advise them well as to their future conduct. These gentlemen may rejoice in the fact that a grand movement is progressing in the land, by which these painful cases in their ministerial experience will assuredly be greatly obviated, and which is seen in the growing resolution of the country to establish reformatories for juvenile criminals. It would tend to complete the reformatory system, if suitable means could be devised by clerical, magisterial, and other benefactors to assist returned convicts in regaining their character, and to provide them with the

Report of the Chaplain of the Convict Hulks, Woolwich.

means of pursuing an honest vocation; if also the abounding gin-shops, beerhouses, and pernicious books and newspapers could be superseded by more rational and more wholesome expedients. My official intercourse with prisoners of every grade, their statements to me of their whole history, and my observation of its fearful effects, afford melancholy and appalling proofs of the necessity to our social interests and happiness of strict, though not morose, Sabbath-keeping and religious education. The national sanctification of the Lord's day, and the public discouragement thereon of mere pleasure-seeking on railways, on steamboats, and in different exhibitions, are essential no less to the true peace of the rich *and the poor* than to the faithful discharge of really religious obligation.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Your very obedient servant,

J. K. Marsh, *Chaplain.*

*To the Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

# IV.

## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF THE HULKS AT WOOLWICH.

*"Unité" Hospital Hulk,*
*January* 10, 1856.

GENTLEMEN,

I BEG, in compliance with my instructions, to forward to you the annual Report on the sanitary condition of the three hulks for the past year.

Report of the Medical Officer of the Hulks at Woolwich.

The medical charge of the prison having devolved on me so recently as the 28th of March last, of the general health of the men for the first quarter I cannot of course speak from personal observation, but the accurate and minute details kept by my predecessor, Dr. Burns, enable me to affirm that their condition during that period was in every respect satisfactory; whilst it affords me much gratification to be able to state that since my appointment the hospital has been unusually empty, and although a large number of the cases admitted have been severe, only five deaths have occurred during the year.

Cholera, which unfortunately last year committed such ravages amongst the prisoners, swelling the number of deaths to about three times the usual proportion, has happily not occurred among us since the last report; and the cases of diarrhœa, although numerous, have for the most part been of so slight a character that many of them have succumbed to treatment without the necessity of admission to hospital; nor has any fatal case occurred to those in whom the disease manifested itself in a more severe form.

I have to record two cases, the one of attempted suicide by hanging, and the other where the act of self-destruction was accomplished by the same means; in the first of these the man was happily resuscitated; in the latter, life was extinct before medical assistance could be procured, in fact, the man had ceased to exist when he was first discovered. Both prisoners were confined in the "Warrior" cells.

Of those diseases which appear to me to require any comment, the the first and most important is phlegmonous erysipelas, which has his year developed itself in a very severe form, in each case it has manifested itself after the receipt of some slight wound, and the chief peculiarity appears to be that the cases did not follow each other in succession, but the hospital would be totally free from it for some time, when it would again attack one or more individuals.

Report of the Medical Officer of the Hulks at Woolwich.

Two cases of scarlatina have also been registered, but prompt measures having been taken in each instance to isolate as much as possible the sufferers from their fellow patients, the progress of the disease was at once arrested.

Two men have been attacked with typhus fever during the year; in one case a man under treatment for a slight accident to the foot fell a victim to the disease.

One accident only, followed by a fatal result, has been received from the public works; in this instance the man survived the injury (an extensive fracture of the base of the skull) about seventy-six hours.

About the usual proportion of diseases affecting the respiratory organs have been under treatment, and here I would just mention the fact of the majority of these cases having been admitted from the "Defence," in fact the disproportion existing between the number of patients received from the two ships is most remarkable. The number from the "Defence" being to those of the "Warrior" as about $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 1.

The type of diseases which appear most prevalent in the "Defence" is, moreover, essentially one met with in low and marshy districts, thus showing that notwithstanding the old and decayed state of the "Warrior" her sanitary condition is superior and her position preferable as being farther removed from the marshes.

The officers have, as a body, been in the enjoyment of good health during the year, and I willingly testify as to the exemplary manner in which the hospital duties have been performed by them almost without exception.

I cannot, in conclusion, but acknowledge the courteous way in which all suggestions made by me have been responded to by the governor of the "Defence," under whose control the general management of the "Unité" is placed.

I must also in this general report, in justice to our present assistant surgeon Mr. Savory, bring him most favourably before the notice of the Directors for his unwearied energy and ability, and congratulate them on having chosen one at all times equal to any emergency.

I have the honour to be, GENTLEMEN,
Your most obedient humble Servant,
JAMES FULLER, *Surgeon.*

*To the Chairman and Directors of the Convict Prisons.*

A YEARLY RETURN of the Diseases occurring on board the Hospital Hulk "Unité" from January 1 to December 13, 1855.

Report of the Medical Officer of the Hulks at Woolwich.

| Diseases. | Remaining in Hospital. | Admitted. | Total. | Discharged. | Died. | Remaining in Hospital. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Febris intermittens | 1 | 5 | 6 | 6 | – | – | |
| Febris continuata | – | 20 | 20 | 19 | 1 | – | 1,768, G. T. admitted May 28, with an injury to foot, died of fever June 9. |
| Ophthalmia | – | 3 | 3 | 3 | – | – | |
| Cynanche | 1 | 6 | 7 | 7 | – | – | |
| Pleuritis | – | 8 | 8 | 7 | 1 | – | 1,910, J. C. admitted June 1, died August of pleuro pneumonia and empyema. |
| Pleurodynia | 2 | 4 | 6 | 6 | – | – | |
| Bronchitis | 4 | 30 | 34 | 30 | 1 | 3 | *1,794, T. H. admitted November 16 1854 with catarrh, died April 26 of bronchitis. |
| Orchitis | – | 4 | 4 | 2 | – | 2 | |
| Phlogosis | 1 | 48 | 49 | 47 | – | 2 | |
| Neuralgia | – | 1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | |
| Rheumatismus | 2 | 11 | 13 | 11 | – | 2 | |
| Erysipelas | 1 | 4 | 5 | 5 | – | – | |
| Scarlatina | – | 2 | 2 | 2 | – | – | |
| Hœmoptysis | 1 | 8 | 9 | 9 | – | – | |
| Hœmatemesis | – | 2 | 2 | 2 | – | – | |
| Phthisis | – | 5 | 5 | 5 | – | – | 1,717, G. A. pardoned June 9 1855. |
| Catarrh | 11 | 114 | 125 | 114 | 1* | – | 1,583, G. P. admitted Mar. 23, died June 21. |
| Dyspepsia | – | 9 | 9 | 9 | – | – | |
| Diarrhœa | 2 | 23 | 25 | 22 | – | 3 | |
| Colic | – | 8 | 8 | 8 | – | – | |
| Anasaria | – | 1 | 1 | – | – | 1 | |
| Obstipatio | – | 1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | |
| Dysuria | 2 | 10 | 12 | 11 | – | 1 | |
| Enlarged bursa | – | 2 | 2 | 2 | – | – | |
| Hernia | – | 1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | |
| Tumour | – | 1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | |
| Vulnus | 7 | 132 | 139 | 130 | 1 | 8 | 2,027, J. C. admitted Aug. 23, died Aug. 26 of fracture of base of skull. |
| Ulcus | – | 10 | 10 | 10 | – | – | |
| Fistula | – | 3 | 3 | 2 | – | 1 | 1,931, W. H. removed to Portsmouth Oct. 3, 1855. |
| Eruptions | 1 | 16 | 17 | 15 | – | 2 | |
| Mania | – | 1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | 1,825, T. P. admitted Jan. 23, sent to Asylum Mar. 23. |
| Epilepsy | – | 1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | |
| Nicrosis | – | 1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | |
| Gelatio | – | 4 | 4 | 4 | – | – | |
| Phrenitis | – | 1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | |
| Hydrocele | – | 3 | 3 | 3 | – | – | |
| Debility | – | 2 | 2 | 2 | – | – | |
| Dysentery (feigned) | – | 1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | |
| Total | 36 | 506 | 542 | 502 | †5 | 35 | |

† No. 6,159, J. C. committed suicide by hanging himself in "Warrior" cell, Sept. 28, not included in the above number of deaths.

Report of the Medical Officer of the Hulks at Woolwich.

A YEARLY RETURN of the Number of Prisoners on board the Hulks for the Year ending the 31st December 1855.

| Names of Hulk. | Remaining. | Admitted. | Total. | Removed to Colonies. | To other Prisons. | Invalided. | Received Licenses. | Sent to Lunatic Asylums. | Pardoned. | Escaped. | Died. | Remain. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| "Defence"- | 526 | 373 | 899 | 200 | 12 | 2 | 189 | 1 | – | 2 | 5 | 489 |
| "Warrior"- | 441 | 359 | 800 | 195 | 4 | 3 | 166 | – | 1 | 1 | 1* | 429 |
| Total - | 967 | 732 | 1,699 | 395 | 16 | 5 | 355 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 918 |

* Suicide.

Casual Sick in both Hulks.

| | |
|---|---|
| "Defence" - - - - - | 15,217 |
| "Warrior" - - - - - | 14,321 |
| Total - - - - | 29,538 |

## V.

## REPORT OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE "STIRLING CASTLE" HULK AT PORTSMOUTH.

*Invalid Depôt, Gosport,*
*January* 1856.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you, in accordance with the established regulations for the Government of Convict Prisons, my Annual Report on the state of this depôt for the year ending December 1855.

Report of the Governor of the "Stirling Castle."

*Conduct of Officers.*—The conduct of the subordinate officers has been very satisfactory. Their duties have been zealously, and for the most part efficiently performed. Only one change has occurred during the year, caused by the resignation of an officer whose health had broken down.

The following statement shows the number and disposal of the prisoners during the year.

| RECEPTION. | | | DISPOSAL. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Remaining on the 1st January 1855 | | 389 | Removed to Millbank Prison | 1 | |
| Received from Millbank Prison | 161 | | „ Dartmoor „ | 100 | |
| „ Pentonville „ | 7 | | „ Spike Island „ | 15 | |
| „ Portland „ | 7 | | „ Portsmouth „ | 14 | |
| „ Dartmoor „ | 33 | | „ Lunatic Asylum | 5 | |
| „ Portsmouth „ | 8 | | Discharged on Licence | 278 | |
| „ "Defence" Hulk | 2 | | „ on conditional Pardon | 2 | |
| „ Wakefield Gaol | 11 | | „ on expiration of sentence | 1 | |
| „ Leicester „ | 1 | | Deaths | 35 | |
| „ Bath „ | 2 | | | | 451 |
| „ Reading „ | 8 | | | | |
| „ Bedford „ | 1 | | | | |
| „ Bow Street | 6* | | | | |
| „ Gibraltar Prison | 136 | | | | |
| „ Bermuda „ | 122 | | | | |
| | | 505 | Remaining on 31st December 1855 | | 443 |
| Total | | 894 | Total | | 894 |

* Licences revoked.

*Employment of Prisoners.*—The employment of the invalid prisoners during this year on board the "Stirling Castle," "Briton," hospital hulk, at the Convict Hard, Gosport, and at the Dockyard, has been of the same character as in previous years, consisting of picking and spinning oakum, drawing stores, &c., making and repairing clothing, together with the work done by the following tradesmen:—shoe-

Report of the Governor of the "Stirling Castle."

makers, carpenters, blacksmiths, tinmen, painters, bookbinders, &c., and boarders, under which head are included cooks, nurses, washer-women, ship-cleaners, and boatmen. As far as practicable, the health and capabilities of every prisoner have been considered in the regulation of their employment.

*Treatment of Prisoners.*—The rules and regulations under this head have been carried out as far as they can be made applicable to invalids. The prisoners have received every consideration consistent with the maintenance of discipline, and daily opportunities have been afforded them of preferring complaints against officers in the exercise of their duties, but no case of harsh or improper treatment has been substantiated.

*State and Condition of the Hulks, &c.*—The "Stirling Castle" is in good condition and repair. The "Briton" hospital ship is also, for her age, in a fair condition. The sides and upper decks of both ships, however, will require caulking during the next spring or autumn. The walls of the buildings on the Convict Hard are in much the same state as last reported, the roofs, spouting, &c., being in good repair.

*Abuses.*—There has been an evident diminution during the past year of that class of offences connected with "traffic," the introduction of tobacco or other articles prohibited by the rules. I am not aware of any other abuses existing in this establishment.

*Escapes.*—Only one attempt at escape has been made during the year, when the prisoner was recaptured within a few hours, as reported at the time.

*Conduct of Prisoners.*—The conduct of the invalid prisoners has been generally satisfactory, for although the number of offences is greater than in the preceding year, they are of a less aggravated character. Corporal punishment, I am happy to say, has not been resorted to; and while there is a diminution of "very good" musters, a great accession has been made to the returns of "good." This, I think, is to be accounted for in a great measure by the liberation on licence of many of the best class of prisoners, and the good effects thus produced on the conduct of others, by the desire to qualify themselves for a similar privilege. With respect to the characteristics of invalid prisoners as a body, I can perceive no change; disease, and a long course of unrestrained bad habits, and vicious association, render them peculiarly irrascible, mischievous, and troublesome, while the difficulty of dealing with them to good purpose, is enhanced by the exemption from adequate punishment or useful employment, which, they are aware, necessarily attaches to their state of health or bodily infirmity.

The mortality, although exceeding that of the previous year, may be said to be under the average of the last three years. The sanitary condition of the ship has been excellent, cleanliness and ventilation having been strictly observed throughout; and it gives me great pleasure to say, that we have been free from all infectious diseases. The Medical Officer's Report will present full details under this head.

The Chaplain will also report fully on his department.

Report of the Governor of the "Stirling Castle."

I may be permitted to add, with respect to the licensing system, that from the knowledge I have now gathered of its practical working, I am confirmed in the opinion I had formed and expressed in my last report, of its wise adaptation to the ends intended to be accomplished. Taken in connexion with the system of reserved payments of gratuities, the measure is well fitted to strengthen these men in the good resolutions they may have formed before obtaining their release. It operates as a restraint upon them when beset with temptation, and this at the most trying and dangerous period, the first few months of liberty. The number of prisoners released on licence in the year from this establishment is 278, of which number six only have been sent back under a revocation of licence. That some would relapse was to have been expected; that so few have had their licences recalled, is the strongest proof of the general well-working of the system.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN SHAW,
*Governor.*

*To the Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

Report of th Governor of the "Stirling Castle."

ABSTRACT of LABOUR performed by the CONVICTS in the "Stirling Castle" Invalid Depôt, Gosport, in the Year from the 1st January to 31st December 1854.

| Nature of Employment. | Number of Days employed during the Year. | Value of Labour. | Amounts. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | *s.* *d.* | £ *s.* *d.* | |
| Labour in Dockyard, Oakum picking and spinning | - - | - - | 131 9 10¾ | Average number of men employed daily, 121·2. |
| Carpenters | 616 | 2 6 | 77 0 0 | |
| Blacksmiths | 386 | 2 6 | 48 5 0 | |
| Painters and Plumbers | 652 | 2 6 | 81 10 0 | |
| Shoemakers | 1,892 | 1 6 | 141 18 0 | |
| Tailors | 2,821 | 1 6 | 211 11 6 | |
| Washers | 1,823 | 1 6 | 136 14 6 | |
| Cooks | 1,825 | 1 6 | 136 17 6 | |
| General prison labour, boats, nurses, &c. | 11,963 | 1 3 | 747 13 9 | |
| Bookbinders | 195 | 1 6 | 14 12 6 | |
| Bedmakers | 261 | 1 6 | 19 11 6 | |
| Matmakers | 217 | 1 6 | 16 5 6 | |
| Tinkers | 228 | 1 6 | 17 2 0 | |
| Total | - - | - - | 1780 11 7¾ | |

A STATEMENT showing the Classification of Prisoners according to Conduct during the Year ending 31st December 1855

| Quarter ending | . | G. | Ind. | B. | V.B. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 31st March | 69 | 209 | 8 | 1 | 1 |
| 30th June | 61 | 238 | 12 | 3 | „ |
| 30th September | 48 | 271 | 15 | 10 | 2 |
| 31st December | 46 | 266 | 8 | 6 | „ |

STATEMENT of OFFENCES and PUNISHMENTS during the Year 1855.

| Number of Offenders punished. | | | Number of Men not punished. | Number of Offences for which actual Punishment was inflicted. | | | | Total Number of Admonitions. | Average daily Number of Men in Prison. | Total No. of Prisoners during the Year. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| By Director. | By Governor. | Total. | | By Director. | By Governor. | Total. | Average No. of Offences daily. | | | |
| | 71 | 72 | 822 | 1 | 154 | 155 | 0·42 (or ·11 per cent.) | 190 | 381·9 | 894 |

* No Case of Corporal Punishment during the year.

# VI.

## REPORT OF THE CHAPLAIN OF THE "STIRLING CASTLE" HULK AT PORTSMOUTH.

"*Stirling Castle*" *Hulk,*
*Gosport, January* 1856.

GENTLEMEN,

I BEG to forward the annual report of this establishment for 1855.

Report of the Chaplain of the "Stirling Castle."

The state of things has been much the same as may be expected in a receptacle for invalid convicts confined in ships, where, although all possible may be done for maintaining discipline and promoting religious and moral progress, not such desirable results can be attained as are reported in other places of restraint more favourably circumstanced.

The services in the chapel, the hospital, &c., both on Sundays and week days, have been conducted according to the rules, thus giving constant opportunities of hearing the word of God, and of joining in our comprehensive church service. The good impressions these and the school teaching are calculated to produce, are weakened however in many instances by the association of this sort of prison. Still there are those who strive against evil, and both benefit themselves, and by their example, others. Such opportunities as occur are also taken to inculcate good principles, and to exhort to their practical application. The number of religious services in the two ships during the week is 45.

The holy communion has been administered four times during the year.

I have already spoken of the benefit which a small instrument, such as a harmonium would render in the chapel, and would trust it may be possible to obtain it.

The proceedings of the school have been marked by order and improvement, which I learn from my own observation and the reports of the masters. The Scriptures are read daily and difficulties explained, and such elementary secular instruction is imparted as, with a simultaneously cultivated conscience, it is proper that every human creature should possess. There are not a few who hardly knew the letters of the alphabet and can now take their verse for reading; and those whose powers of thought had been so dormant, or so misapplied, that they could not comprehend the subjects brought before them, but now can enter into them with interest and show promise of good. I believe that in the prison system a great deal is done, both in religious services and school teaching, towards arousing in prisoners new and healthy views of themselves, and inciting them

Report of the Chaplain of the "Stirling Castle."

to seek for a strength outside them and beyond them, viz., the grace of God. It is a general impression that no good thing can come out of prison or hulk; but that ought not to be despaired of. Deal with convicts so that they may see you admit them as having souls redeemed by our common Lord, and by appeals adapted to each class, ensure their co-operation in the great end in view. Reproach them not, but draw them on to reproach and condemn themselves; which, wherever it takes place, is a promising beginning at least of good.

The school books in use are the same as previously reported on, but a change would be of great benefit. I have already sent a requisition for what I now mention.

The same may be said of the lending library, which is calculated to be of the greatest service, both to form a taste for wholesome reading, and considering the nature of the inmates of this establishment confined to the ships, they stand in great need of mental occupation. A very few go out to work, while the life of the many is truly monotonous.

The exertions of the schoolmasters must be favourably spoken of. They are well qualified for their work, and successfully engage the attention of the prisoners, who are not insensible of the pains taken to benefit them.

The duties of the hospital have been of the same nature as usual. Divine service and sermons twice on Sunday, and morning and evening prayers on every other day of the week. On two days there is added to these a lecture.

In visiting the sick, the Chaplain and Scripture-reader have been received with acceptance and thankfulness, with three exceptions. And of those who have departed this life, 35 in number, not a few might be mentioned who were in a satisfactory and hopeful frame of mind.

Besides the "Briton" Hospital, there is the lower deck of the "Stirling Castle," which may be called a second hospital, where prayers are read daily. Lectures are also given by the Chaplain, and such as are approved by him, read by the Scripture reader.

It remains to be said, that this officer discharges his sometimes difficult task with judgment and attention to his duties.

| | |
|---|---|
| The number of prisoners on the books of this establishment on 1st January 1855, was - - | 389 |
| Which were increased during the year by - - | 505 |
| Making the total number during 1855 - - | 894 |
| Of this aggregate were liberated, died, or were transferred - - - - - - | 451 |
| Which left remaining 31st December 1855 - | 443 |
| The greatest number on board in one day - - | 443 |
| least „ „ - - | 336 |
| The daily average number - - | 381·9 |

Report of the Chaplain of the "Stirling Castle."

From the results of inquiries made after our liberated prisoners, I conclude that the majority of them are going on satisfactorily; and this I think is deserving of remark, as the licence prisoners hence are a peculiar class. They are more or less invalids, which, indeed brings them here. Among them are elderly or old men, having outlived relations and friends who might otherwise have taken an interest in them. Being invalids, as a rule, they have not gained sufficient convict earnings so as to have a balance of gratuity to receive at three months' end to help them in their new career, though it is true they have subsistence money at leaving. These varied circumstances are no doubt against prisoners from an invalid establishment, and yet under all these, I do not learn that they are doing ill as a body. *A fortiori* then should it be expected, that men from hard labour prisons would be well reported of. Thence they go out in health, and the average of their years is youthful; most must have surviving relatives who can receive them; and with work sought for them and able to work, and balance of gratuity to receive at the end of three months, things are greatly in their favour; so that I think if our prisoners, under less favourable conditions, have, as a body, been well heard of, their more fortunately started brethren ought to excel them. That the measure has not disappointed your expectations, I sincerely trust you will be able to show; and the closer the scrutiny that is applied, the better it will be for the interests of truth. Prejudice has, I think, existed against the system, but I believe the principle to have been reasonable. And still, if the system is to continue, perhaps alterations for its improvement might be devised.

Before concluding, I will express a hope that houses of refuge for such liberated prisoners as may be compelled by circumstances to wish to enter them, may be augmented in their means and capabilities, and that the county reformatory schools may go on increasing in number and prosper; that the children received into them may understand and value Christian principle, but also, that Christianity is *action* and *doing* in *imitation* of our blessed Lord; and that these schools may contribute their part towards gradually diminishing the number of prisons for grown-up offenders.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your very obedient servant,
J. K. Walpole,
*Chaplain.*

*The Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

# VII.

## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER ON THE INVALID HULK AT PORTSMOUTH.

*"Briton" Convict Hospital Ship, Portsmouth, January* 19, 1856.

GENTLEMEN,

Report of the Medical Officer of the Invalid Hulk at Portsmouth.

I HAVE the honour to forward the annual Report of the Invalid Depôt "Stirling Castle," for the year ending 31st December 1855, and to bring under your notice more immediately the enclosed tabular forms marked No. 1 and 2, wherein will be seen the amount of disease, and how disposed of, although I am not aware of any thing requiring to be specially notified beyond what has been already mentioned in the monthly returns.

The number of prisoners admitted during this period has far exceeded that of last year, consequently the mortality has been greater, and I think the diseases generally which have presented, have assumed a more complicated form, including a large amount of pulmonary disorder. Five cases of lunacy have been removed to the Criminal Lunatic Asylum in St. George's-in-the-Fields, and five other cases of mental affection remain under treatment as well as many with epilepsy.

The chest diseases now remaining are also numerous and must in most instances eventually have a fatal termination, as also many of the aged and infirm, under which head will be observed a larger proportion of the total amount of disease. Table No. 2 contains a statement of such convicts as have been received during the year into the Hospital Ship, of whom thirty-one have died, including the two belonging to Portsmouth prison.

The health of the officers has been ordinarily good; only one having been discharged from unfitness, and but one being now on sick leave.

The hulks continue in a satisfactory state of cleanliness, and the provisions, with few exceptions, very sound and good.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
JNO. W. BOWLER, Surgeon, R.N.,
*Medical Officer.*

*The Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

No. 1.

GENERAL ANNUAL REPORT of Invalid Prisoners belonging to the Convict Invalid Depôt, Portsmouth Harbour, for the Year 1856.

Report of the Medical Officer of the Invalid Hulk at Portsmouth.

| Disease. | Remaining January 1, 1855. | Since received. | Total. | Transferred to | | | | | Died. | Discharged on Licence. | Remaining 1 January 1856. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Portsmouth Prison. | Dartmoor. | Millbank. | Spike Island. | Lunatic Asylum. | | | |
| Chorea | 1 | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – |
| Epilepsia | 21 | 24 | 45 | 4 | 16 | 1 | – | – | – | 3 | 21 |
| Weak mind | 9 | 21 | 30 | – | 18 | – | – | 3 | – | 4 | 5 |
| Paralysis | 8 | 5 | 13 | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | 3 | 9 |
| Asthma | 14 | 5 | 19 | – | 2 | – | – | – | 1 | 9 | 6 |
| Bronchitis | 18 | 11 | 29 | – | 4 | – | – | – | 3 | 3 | 19 |
| Pleuritis | 6 | – | 6 | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | 5 | – |
| Phthisis | 20 | 42 | 62 | – | 12 | – | – | – | 16 | 9 | 25 |
| Hæmoptysis | 3 | – | 3 | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| Diarrhœa and dysentery | 20 | 2 | 22 | – | 1 | – | – | – | 4 | 1 | 16 |
| Hæmatemesis | 3 | 1 | 4 | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | 3 |
| Dyspepsia | 8 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 3 | – | – | – | – | 2 | 3 |
| Varix | 4 | – | 4 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 4 | – |
| Morbus cordis | 10 | 9 | 19 | – | 4 | – | – | – | – | 2 | 13 |
| Rheumatism | 16 | 7 | 23 | 1 | 3 | – | – | 1 | – | 6 | 12 |
| Synoditis | 2 | – | 2 | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – |
| Syphilis | – | 1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Scrofulous disease | 23 | 10 | 33 | 1 | 8 | – | – | – | 3 | 5 | 16 |
| Ophthalmia | 3 | 1 | 4 | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | 3 |
| Blindness and cataract | 5 | 3 | 8 | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | 3 | 4 |
| Dropsy | 1 | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – |
| Albumenuria | 2 | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 2 | – |
| Diabetes | 1 | 2 | 3 | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | 1 | – |
| Deformed and crippled | 13 | 10 | 23 | – | 3 | – | – | – | – | 15 | 5 |
| Debility and aged | 87 | 70 | 157 | 2 | 7 | – | – | – | 3 | 38 | 107 |
| Hernia | 14 | 4 | 18 | – | 3 | – | – | – | – | 5 | 10 |
| Fractures | 5 | – | 5 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 5 | – |
| Stricture | 4 | 1 | 5 | – | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 | 3 |
| Tumor | 2 | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 |
| Fistula | 10 | 3 | 13 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 3 | 10 |
| Abscessus | 16 | 4 | 20 | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 19 |
| Ulcus | 4 | 8 | 12 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | 11 |
| Porrigo | 3 | 1 | 4 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | 3 |
| Invalids from Gibraltar | – | 34 | 34 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 34 |
| Others ditto | – | 102 | 102 | – | – | – | 15 | – | – | 138 | 71 |
| Ditto from Bermuda | – | 122 | 122 | | | | | | | | |
| Various other diseases | 33 | 1 | 34 | – | 8 | – | – | – | 4 | 6 | 13 |
| Conditional pardon | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 2 | – |
| Sentence expired | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – |
| Total | 389 | 505 | 894 | 14 | 100 | 1 | 15 | 5 | 35 | 281 | 443 |

Report of the Medical Officer of the Invalid Hulk at Portsmouth.

No. 2.—Abstract of the Diseases of Patients admitted into the "Briton" Convict Hospital for 1855.

| Diseases. | Admitted. | Died. | Discharged. |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Febrile and cutaneous diseases:—** | | | |
| Febricula 1. Herpes 2 (1 remaining) | 3 | — | 2 |
| Acne 1. Lupus 1 (remaining) | 2 | — | 1 |
| Sycosis 1. Eczema 1 (both remaining) | 2 | — | — |
| Lepra 2 (remaining). Porrigo 4 (1 remaining) | 6 | — | 3 |
| Phlegmon 2. Furuncle 1 (remaining) | 3 | — | 2 |
| **Nervous and mental disorders:—** | | | |
| Neuralgia 2. Convulsio 1 | 3 | — | 3 |
| Cephalalgia and vertigo (4 remaining) | 12 | — | 8 |
| Paralysis 1. (remaining) | 1 | — | — |
| Phrenitis 2. (1 fatal, 1 remaining) | 2 | 1 | — |
| Mental disorders (including 4 lunatics removed to Bethlem) (3 remaining) | 11 | — | 8 |
| Epilepsia 14 (3 remaining) | 14 | — | 11 |
| **Diseases of the chest:—** | | | |
| Catarrhus 21 (3 remaining) | 21 | — | 18 |
| Asthma 2 (1 remaining) | 2 | — | 1 |
| Bronchitis 19 (6 remaining) | 19 | 2 | 11 |
| Pleuritis 1. Pneumonia 2 (1 fatal) | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Phthisis 31 (14 fatal, 8 remaining) | 31 | 14 | 9 |
| **Diseases of the abdomen:—** | | | |
| Gastrodynia 4. Dyspepsia 2. Pyrosis 4 | 10 | — | 10 |
| Tonsillitis 1. Dropsy 1 (fatal) | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Diarrhœa 21 (3 fatal, 6 remaining) | 21 | 3 | 12 |
| Prolapsus 2. Fistula 3 (1 remaining) | 5 | — | 4 |
| Tænia 1. Hæmorrhois 1 (1 remaining) | 2 | — | 1 |
| Constipatio 2. Hæmatemesis 6 (1 remaining) | 8 | — | 7 |
| **Urinary diseases:—** | | | |
| Diseases of the bladder, &c. 4 (2 fatal, 1 remaining) | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| Diabetes 2. Dysuria 3 (1 remaining) | 5 | — | 4 |
| Albumenuria 1. Hæmaturia 1 (fatal) | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Hydrocele 1. Stricture 2 (1 remaining) | 3 | — | 2 |
| **Diseases of nutrition:—** | | | |
| Podagra 1. Rheumatismus 1 | 2 | — | 2 |
| Struma 21 (3 fatal, 6 remaining) | 21 | 3 | 12 |
| Synovitis 2. Periostitis 2 (1 remaining) | 4 | — | 3 |
| Muscular rheumatism 14 (2 remaining) | 14 | — | 12 |
| Debilitas 36 (2 fatal, 13 remaining) | 36 | 2 | 21 |
| **Various diseases and injuries:—** | | | |
| Odontalgia 1. Ophthalmia 8 (3 remaining) | 9 | — | 6 |
| Palpitatio 6. Morbus cordis 7 (3 remaining) | 13 | — | 10 |
| Scalds 2. Sinus 7 (4 remaining) | 9 | — | 5 |
| Caries and necrosis 7 (1 fatal, 4 remaining) | 7 | 1 | 2 |
| Fracture 1. Abscessus 8 (2 remaining) | 9 | — | 7 |
| Vulnus 4. Ulcus 11 (3 remaining) | 15 | — | 12 |
| Abrasio 1. Luxatio humeri 1 (remaining) | 2 | — | 1 |
| Contusio 3, Hernia 1 | 4 | — | 4 |
| Tumor 2 (both remaining) | 2 | — | — |
| Total | 344 | 31* | 219 |

* In addition to four deaths on board the "Stirling Castle."

# REPORT

OF THE

# DIRECTORS OF CONVICT PRISONS

ON THE

## DISCIPLINE AND MANAGEMENT

OF

# BRIXTON PRISON.

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# BRIXTON PRISON.

## REPORT,

For the Year 1855, of the Directors of the Convict Prisons, made, as regards Brixton Prison, in pursuance of the Act 5 Geo. 4, cap. 84, and 13 & 14 Vict. cap. 39;—specifying the State of the Buildings, the Behaviour and Conduct of the Officers of the Prison, and of the Convicts, the Amount of the Earnings of the Convicts, and the Expense of the Prison; and such other Matters relating to the Discipline and Management thereof, as they shall deem expedient, or the Secretary of State shall direct.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.*

To the Right Honourable Sir GEORGE GREY, G.C.B.,

*Secretary of State for the Home Department.*

Sir, 45, *Parliament Street*, 1856.

We have the honour to submit the following Report upon the Prison for Female Convicts at Brixton.

### *Buildings.*

Buildings.

The buildings are in substantial repair.

Two large rooms have been added to the infirmary, and the laundry has been considerably enlarged. The work has been performed under contract.

### *Conduct of the Officers.*

Officers' conduct.

The superior officers have given every satisfaction. One assistant matron was dismissed; several others, found incapable of performing the duties, or unwilling to continue in the prison service, were discharged after short trials. The subordinate officers, who had been permanently appointed, have, with the above exception, been diligent and attentive to their duties.

### *Conduct of Prisoners.*

Prisoners' conduct.

During the year 342 prisoners avoided reports entirely, and 113 have only been punished once.

So far the conduct of the majority of the prisoners may be regarded as very satisfactory. On the other hand, there are some prisoners who show no improvement whatever, who apparently neither act upon good counsel nor are deterred by punishment. When this is the case, discipline, such as characterises male convict prisons, cannot be effected. Considerable improvement, however, has taken place lately. There is more order now than there was during the first year after the prison was established. The officers have learned to manage the prisoners better, and the older prisoners have fallen systematically into their proper places. Command on the one side has been more judiciously exercised, and on the other, propriety, cleanliness, obedience, and the performance of routine labour, have been maintained with more resignation and more cheerfulness.

In a former report we stated, that "female convicts may be "generally classed in two divisions, viz., the many whose "conduct is good, and the few who are extremely bad. It also "by no means uncommonly occurs, that a prisoner who has "conducted herself for several months outrageously, and been "to all appearance insensible to shame, to kindness, to punish-"ment, will suddenly alter and continue to improve to the end "of her imprisonment; while on the other hand, one who has "conducted herself so well as to be put into the first class, "and on whom apparently every dependance might be placed, "suddenly breaks out, gives way to uncontrolled passion, and in "utter desperation commits a succession of offences.

Further experience confirms this statement. Sustained hypocrisy is not a characteristic feature among them. They are too impressionable to restrain themselves for any prolonged period. Few of them have been taught, or themselves learnt, to control their passion, and they often follow a vicious or violent lead they can hardly tell why.

Mrs. Martin states with great truth—

"The conduct of the prisoners, judging from a glance at the number of reports and punishments, will not, I fear, appear in a very favourable light; but an investigation of them will show that the greater number of reports are of a trivial nature, arising very frequently from the monotonous and wearying routine of prison life amongst female convicts, precluded, as they must be, from the bracing and invigorating effects of out-door labour, which is the privilege of male convicts; so that even when they are industrious, the mind still broods over the causes and effects of their imprisonment; in this mood, too often an energetic command from a matron is met with an irritable gesture or impatient reply, perhaps both, and becomes the

subject of a report, when a gentle admonition to the prisoner next day is met by her with real sorrow at her having so forgotten herself."

The Chaplain states—

"The sudden impulses to which female prisoners especially are subject, might form a useful study, and might lead parents to see the importance of restraining evil tempers in their children in the morning of life. But most of those who have been outrageously bad have had few home influences to touch their hearts, or they ran away from home to avoid them."

This insight into the character of certain female convicts is necessary, to comprehend the Table of Reports at page 284, in the Appendix. Otherwise, where one woman has been reported for misconduct in the year no less than 51 times, one 46 times, two 44 times, one 39 times, two 37 times, one 36 times, one 35 times, and so on, it might not unreasonably be assumed that the entire system of management was wrong, whereas no system of which coercion forms a prominent portion can possibly control such persons. A very important and difficult question then presents itself. How are the reckless ones to be treated?

If only advised and reasoned with, they ascribe leniency to weakness, and presume upon the kindness shown to them. If punished, they must be punished according to the ordinary methods laid down by the Statute; viz.—"Close confinement "in a dark or light cell, or by being fed on bread and water only, "or by both such punishments." It is an acknowledged principle that the certainty of punishment, rather than its severity deters criminals from the commission of offences. Moreover, as crimes increase in number the severity of punishment should increase also. Again, to punish one prisoner for an offence when another committing the same offence is allowed to go unpunished, or to punish one who has committed many offences no more than another who has committed few offences, is contrary to all principles of justice. And yet, the oftener a female convict is punished, the less is she physically able to endure punishment. The female constitution will neither bear long nor repeated deprivation of food. Though no immediately perceptible effect may be produced, the medical officer is of opinion, from the experience of the last two years, that the seeds of permanent disease may nevertheless be sown, and the utmost caution must be exercised lest lasting injury be inflicted consequent upon breaches of discipline or the wanton destruction of prison property, which last is the prevailing offence. Hence it follows, that after a certain point of physical endurance is passed, the worse a woman behaves the less she suffers. If with failing powers came amended lives, some counterbalancing good at any rate would be the result. But

this is not so, as the health deteriorates, irritability increases; violence and passion remain as strongly in the character as when she was in full health, and in compassion for her bodily condition she is borne with and coaxed by those who are over her, to her own detriment and the subversion of wholesome discipline throughout the prison.

The difficulties in these cases are innumerable, and they increase when the sentences are long.

The establishment of a penal class at Millbank, as stated in the report on that prison, has in some degree met the evil, by separating the worst from the others, and removing examples which many of the women are only too prone to follow; but what effect it may have upon themselves experience alone can prove.

## *Number and Disposal of Prisoners.*

Number and disposal of prisoners.

ANNUAL STATEMENT of the REMOVAL of CONVICTS to and from BRIXTON PRISON, between 1st January and 31st December 1855.

| On the 1st January 1855: | | Disposed of during the Year, by— | |
|---|---|---|---|
| The Number of Convicts in Brixton Prison | 643 | Removed to Millbank Prison | 12 |
| | | Discharged by Licence | 88 |
| Received during the Year from Millbank Prison | 101 | Ditto, on Medical Grounds | 19 |
| | | Pardons, Conditional | 1 |
| Ditto from County and Borough Prisons | 5 | Removed to Lunatic Asylums | 3 |
| | | Died | 7 |
| Ditto from Bow Street Police Court with revocation of licence | 2 | Number remaining 31st December 1855 | 621 |
| | 7 | | |
| Total | 751 | Total | 751 |

## *Expenses of the Prison and Employment of Prisoners.*

Prison expenses.

The total expenditure of the prison for the year ending 31st March 1856, exclusive of buildings, amounted to 18,701*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* as shown in the Appendix, page 286, which was reduced by receipts for the value of work done by the prisoners to 17,074*l.* 9*s* 0*d.*

The employment of the prisoners has been the same as it was last year, with the exception of making military trowsers, which was however discontinued after an unsuccessful trial. The various articles made are enumerated in the Appendix, page 285, and the best idea of the work executed will be found on referring to that document.

## *Health and Mental Condition of the Prisoners.*

Health and mental condition of the prisoners.

Mr. Rendle, the resident Surgeon, has reported upon the sanitary condition of the prison, and furnished the usual statistical tables.

The report is a very important document, requiring the most serious consideration. We especially allude to the observations relating to the effects produced by lengthened imprisonment upon the health of female convicts.

In speaking of the 27 cases of debility which were treated by him during the year, Mr. Rendle states :—

"The only remarks I have to make, with reference to the diseases named above, are on the comparatively large number of cases of debility. Nearly the whole of the women who suffered were in good health when convicted. The feeling of weakness was in some preceded for five, six, or eight weeks by loss of appetite; in others, weakness was first complained of, and the appetite failed a few weeks after. Each case was treated in the wards, but without benefit, previous to being sent to the infirmary, and all the patients complained of extreme weakness, emaciation, and loss of appetite. The health of nearly all began to fail about six months before they were admitted to the infirmary.

"The cause of the failure of health in these cases I believe to be entirely due to imprisonment.

"I beg leave, whilst writing on these cases of debility, respectfully to express my fears, as to *the ultimate effect* of lengthened imprisonment on the health of the *female* prisoners sentenced *to penal servitude.*

"In carrying out the sentences of these prisoners, the disadvantages, in point of health, to the women, compared with those of the men, are of considerable importance, and will prove, I fear, to be serious.

"I think it very likely that the women, on account of their previous domestic habits of life, will bear the first fifteen or eighteen months of their sentences in prison even better than the men. But after the expiration of this period of time the male prisoners, for the remaining portions of their sentences, are put in a position, as regards the effect of employment and habits of life on the health, nearly or quite equal to that of the labouring classes generally, whereas the women must remain *within* the prison walls.

"The majority of the women, without doubt, will go through the whole period of penal servitude, and apparently without any injury to health resulting therefrom.

"But, judging from what I have been able to observe of the effect of imprisonment on the health of the female prisoners who have been, and of those who are now confined, in this prison, I believe that *after the expiration of the third year of imprisonment* the health of many will fail, and I do not think that the whole period of penal servitude can be passed in prison without causing fatal disease in

some, and in very many others such a condition of permanent ill health as will prevent them from again supporting themselves.

"It is, I think, of importance to notice that hitherto no woman discharged from this prison has been in confinement for so long a period as four years. All, except one, who were discharged during the last year, were liberated at the end of three years. The one mentioned as the exception was released in ill health at the end of three years and six months."

Deaths. In the course of the year 7 prisoners died. Of these, 3 appear to have been in good health on reception. The particulars are tabulated in the Appendix in Table 1, page 300.

Insanity. Two cases of insanity are detailed fully at page 303.

Suicides. No case of suicide has been reported. Three attempts however have been made, but two were so clearly cases of imposture no details are necessary. The third must also be considered as not intended, though the circumstances of the unfortunate prisoner, as stated in the Medical Report, page 298, were such as to ensure sympathy and compassion.

Cold in A and D wards and ventilation of cells in wings. The cells in the old prison on the ground floor have been found extremely cold, but means are now being taken to warm them. The permanent ventilation of the cells in the new wings is also under consideration, and an effectual remedy will be applied before the return of hot weather renders any change necessary.

## *Religious and General Instruction.*

Religious and general instruction. In this respect no change of any consequence has been made during the last year. Mr. Moran, the Chaplain, has reported fully his opinion on several important subjects connected with the confinement of the females. His report appears in the Appendix.

## *Lady Visitors.*

Lady Visitors. We have to record our grateful sense of the useful services rendered by the ladies who so attentively devote themselves to the prisoners confined in Brixton Prison.

## *Licences or Tickets of Leave.*

Licences. We have little to notice under this head. A few women have had their licences revoked, and if their own statements are to be credited, under very cruel circumstances. Little dependance, however, can be placed on what they say, and indeed the truth is not to be expected from them in a matter where they are sure to exculpate themselves if they possibly can. The system of granting licences to female convicts yet remains to be tested. Probably it will only be at the end

of another year, or even two, that any reliable opinion can be formed of its working.

### *Conclusion.*

On former occasions we stated that the difficulties in a woman's path, when released from a convict prison, preventing her restoration to respectability, were very numerous under the most favourable circumstances, and almost insuperable when unprovided with a refuge. Under this impression an establishment is in course of formation at Burlington House, Fulham, partaking rather of the nature of a Refuge than of a prison. It is intended to send there the most promising female convicts, and in allowing them more liberty than can be permitted at Brixton, substitute self-control for coercion, and so fit them for re-entrance to society. Most persons are naturally indisposed to engage a servant direct from a prison; but, from an institution such as that at Fulham there will, we hope at least, be less disinclination.

The management and treatment of female convicts will then be systematised. The first period of imprisonment will be passed at Millbank under the strictest discipline consistent with the health of women. The next and longest period will be passed at Brixton, where the discipline will be gradually relaxed, according to time and good conduct combined. The last period will be passed at Fulham, where restraint will be still further decreased, the character undergo a final test, and if not found wanting, the female convicts' prospects of ultimate respectability will be materially improved.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your very obedient servants,

J. Jebb, Colonel, R.E.

*Chairman.*

I. S. Whitty,

*Director of Convict Prisons.*

# APPENDIX.

## I.

## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF BRIXTON PRISON.

Superintendent's Report.

GENTLEMEN, *Brixton Prison, January* 10, 1856.

I DO myself the honour to submit to you my Report of this prison for the year 1855.

*Conduct of Officers.*—This has been such as to justify, generally speaking, the great care taken in their selection. There has been a solitary instance of a want of moral principle in an assistant matron, who was on probation, and evinced intemperate habits, for which she was dismissed; 11 have resigned, knowing but little of the duties when they came, and finding themselves unequal to them. Those who remain have uniformly shown a consistent example in their own deportment and in the treatment of the prisoners, whilst the few who have been malignantly assaulted by prisoners have "overcome evil with good," exercising a spirit of Christian patience and forgiveness, and have persevered in their duties with unabated zeal.

*Treatment of the Prisoners.*—They have been treated with firmness, kindness, and patience; pains have been taken by some of the subordinate officers to raise their moral tone. I have been so struck with this, that I have occasionally pointed it out to the prisoners as an especal responsibility and cause for thankfulness on their part. I may, perhaips, be allowed to adduce a recent instance. A remarkably violent-tempered, high-spirited prisoner in the infirmary was told by an officer that her cap was not according to the regulation, and must be altered. She was very sullen when the officer was gone, and appealed to the head nurse of the infirmary, who spoke to her kindly on the subject, and told her that she ought to be obedient. "Well, ma'am," she said, "I am sure if you wish it altered, I will alter it cheerfully "for you." "No," was the reply, "I hope you will not alter it for "*me*, but because it is your duty to do so." She went in and altered it immediately. The head nurse alluded to has been many years in the service, is a consistent Christian, and an efficient officer.

*Conduct of the Prisoners.*—The conduct of the prisoners, judging from a glance at the number of reports and punishments, will not, I fear, appear in a very favourable light; but an investigation of them will show that the greater number of reports are of a trivial nature,

Superintendent's Report.

arising very frequently from the monotonous and wearying routine of prison life amongst female convicts, precluded, as they must be, from the bracing and invigorating effects of out-door labour, which is the privilege of male convicts; so that even when they are industrious, the mind still broods over the causes and effects of their imprisonment; in this mood, too often an energetic command from a matron is met with an irritable gesture or impatient reply, perhaps both, and becomes the subject of a report, when a gentle admonition to the prisoner next day is met by her with real sorrow at her having so forgotten herself. We are able, however, to state, that 342 have never been even thus slightly reported; 144 have received simply admonition, whilst very few of those in whom we trusted reformation had begun have relapsed into their former reckless and vicious conduct. In some, indeed, it is lamentable to find that persuasion and punishment alike fail to produce good effect. In some cases, the neglect of their friends in not writing to them; and in other, their friends having entirely given them up, has led them to give way to utter self-abandonment, and to feel a satisfaction, even to a spirit of revenge, in working all sorts of wickedness. Such instances, however, are not numerous, and in some of these the chastening hand of God, in severe bodily affliction, has been laid, and they have passed into the infirmary; where the order and calmness which ever reign in that department, have had a beneficial influence in subduing the unruly will, and, by many a Christian prayer and effort, bringing it into the subjection of Christ. Would there were more such results of the planting and watering of the better influences we so earnestly and diligently desire to cultivate where hitherto nothing but weeds have flourished; for daily do we prove that nothing but God's marvellous gift, "the increase," will ever produce permanent reformation; whilst, on the other hand, we as constantly experience that severe punishment is a means both feeble and fruitless; inasmuch as they will endure long punishment, and after it has ceased for a day or two, and not unfrequently immediately afterwards, commit the very same offence in a still more passionate and vindictive spirit. Of twelve of these very hopeless prisoners we have been relieved by their being sent to Millbank.

*Employment of the Prisoners.*—The employment of the prisoners consists, as heretofore, of laundry work, cooking, baking, needlework of all kinds, bonnet-making, and knitting. I consider them to be industrious, though the amount of work done may not appear to substantiate my opinion with very satisfactory proof, since it is not always easy to have a full supply of needlework for so large a number; also, many new prisoners coming from manufacturing districts are quite beginners, hardly knowing how to hold a needle. But this I can say, that, as a body, nothing is more grievous to them than a lack of work; and we have, on the whole, received a fair supply, though occasionally there has been anxiety on the subject. We laboured for some time under the disadvantage of an incompetent Work-mistress; but this serious inconvenience is now at an end by the appointment of one who will, I think, prove efficient. Much time is profitably consumed in exercise, schooling, and the privilege

Superintendent's Report.

of having Divine service twice a day; together with much religious and secular instruction from our greatly respected and indefatigable Chaplain. The Lady Scripture-reader also spends much time amongst the prisoners, to their great advantage; whilst the Lady Visitors, with true zeal and benevolence, not only exert themselves for their eternal welfare, but for their temporal benefit on their discharge from prison.

*State and Condition of the Buildings.*—Some important additions have been made, and some are still in progress. Two good-sized rooms have been added to the infirmary. The Laundry is being enlarged to the utmost extent of our capabilities. The state of the Infirmary yard, and corresponding yard on the west side is necessarily very unfinished; they are much wanted for the exercise of the prisoners; some convenient buildings for stores have been added to these yards.

*Abuses.*—I firmly believe that there has been no abuse throughout the establishment, and beg to say that the rules for the government of the prison have been strictly observed, in which I have been greatly assisted by the ability, energy, firmness, and perseverance of the Deputy-Superintendent.

*Escape.*—No endeavour to escape has been made.

I cannot conclude my report without expressing my deep thankfulness at the encouraging prospect held out to our prisoners in the three stages of discipline recently established; especially in the last stage, the removal of the most improved convicts to Burlington House, Fulham; it is, indeed, a most important step, fraught with benevolence to the prisoner and good to the community. Improvement may be strongly indicated in the first and second stages; but it is in the third alone that we shall be able to test its reality, and send them forth with a reasonable expectation that they are permanently reformed. I fear I may be thought too sanguine in saying, that I firmly believe the new law of penal servitude, thus ameliorated, will have (looking at it in every point of view) an excellent result. So many have lately left us with the sincerest resolution to do well; but their going straight from a large prison, and with the brand of a ticket-of-leave convict, makes me tremble for them; for few can tell what trials, and even great injustice, from suspicion and aversion, such have to encounter, of which I have had a very recent and striking instance.

I am much relieved, also, that their suspense is ended as to the duration of their sentence, and the more so because they have long borne this painful state in a patient spirit; so hoping against hope, that I had rather dreaded the effect of the announcement of the very little prospect there is before them of any remission of their sentence. It has been my endeavour to follow up the consideration with which the new law is coupled by declaring it to the prisoners in a kind and judicious manner, and can say, that it has been eminently successful; for although at the very same time that the announcement was made to them many transported prisoners were receiving their tickets of licence, and leaving the prison; no insubordination was shown, and

they received with much gratitude the very great alleviation held out to them in the stages to which, by good conduct, they may advance. I do, indeed, then sincerely rejoice that so excellent a way has been devised; for if in a previous report I deemed the providing Refuges a desirable and important step, further experience has led me to consider it so in a tenfold degree; and had I the means and the permission, every reformed woman should, from such Refuge, step forth into the world with a neat prayer-book and small Bible, (for carrying to church,) and receive some little encouragement in money for every year she remained in one place, and could bring satisfactory proof that she was living "soberly, righteously, and godly," which money should be placed in a savings' bank for her relief when out of place, sick, or aged.

I hope I am not presuming in saying so much, if I am, I beg sincerely to apologise for so doing, and to assure you that I remain, with great respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most humble and obedient servant,

EMMA M. MARTIN,

*Superintendent.*

*The Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

Superintendent's Report

## Annual Statement of the Removal of Convicts to and from Brixton Prison, between 1st January and 31st December 1855.

| On the 1st January 1855:— | | Disposed of during the Year, by— | |
|---|---|---|---|
| The Number of Convicts in Brixton Prison - - - | 643 | Removed to Millbank Prison - - | 12 |
| Received during the Year from Millbank Prison - - - | 101 | Discharged by Licence - - - | 88 |
| Ditto from County and Borough Prisons - - | 5 | Ditto, on Medical Grounds - - | 19 |
| Ditto from Bow Street Police Court with revocation of licence - - | 2 | Pardons, Conditional - - | 1 |
| | 7 | Removed to Lunatic Asylums - - | 3 |
| | | Died - - - - - - | 7 |
| | | Number remaining 31st December 1855 - - - - - | 621 |
| Total - - | 751 | Total - - | 751 |

## Return of Punishments of Female Convicts in Brixton Prison for the Year 1855.

| Nature of Punishment. | Adults. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Total. | Juveniles. | | | | | | | | | | | Total. | Grand Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Less than One Day. | Days. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Less than One Day. | Days. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 14 | 15 | 18 | 20 | 21 | 28 | 30 | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 14 | 28 | 30 | | |
| In handcuffs | 42 | 44 | 2 | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 89 | 47 | 34 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 81 | 170 |
| Strait waistcoat | 2 | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 3 | 1 | 5 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 6 | 9 |
| Punishment Cell — Full rations | . | 33 | 16 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | | 2 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 67 | . | 9 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 | . | 7 | . | 1 | . | 33 | 100 |
| Punishment Cell — Half diet | . | . | . | . | . | 7 | 1 | | 17 | 2 | 2 | 2 | . | 1 | . | . | . | 36 | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 3 | . | . | 20 | 56 |
| Punishment Cell — Bread & water | . | 39 | 57 | 47 | 4 | 21 | 18 | | 15 | . | 4 | . | . | 1 | . | 1 | . | 208 | . | 25 | 20 | 21 | 1 | 5 | 10 | . | 10 | . | . | . | 92 | 300 |
| On bread and water diet | . | 98 | 35 | 15 | 1 | 10 | 1 | | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 160 | . | 38 | 8 | 4 | . | 3 | . | . | . | . | . | . | 53 | 213 |
| Deprived of one meal or part of a meal | 250 | . | . | . | . | . | . | | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 250 | 55 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 55 | 305 |
| Confined to cell | . | 211 | 43 | 3 | . | 4 | . | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 287 | . | 63 | 15 | . | . | . | . | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 88 | 375 |
| Withdrawn from association | 90 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 90 | 8 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 8 | 98 |
| Reprimanded | 286 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 286 | 69 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 69 | 355 |
| Admonished | 244 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 244 | 29 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 29 | 273 |
| Not punished on special grounds | 13 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 13 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | .. | 13 |
| Total | 927 | 426 | 153 | 71 | 9 | 46 | 23 | 6 | 40 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 1,733 | 209 | 174 | 48 | 28 | 2 | 13 | 14 | 8 | 30 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 534 | 2,267 |

Superintendent's Report.

Superintendent's Report.

RETURN of PRISONERS REPORTED at Brixton Prison for the Year 1855.

| Prisoners Reported. | No. of Prisoners. | No. of Reports. | Prisoners Reported. | No. of Prisoners. | No. of Reports. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Once | 140 | 140 | 24 times | 3 | 72 |
| Twice | 61 | 122 | 25 „ | 2 | 50 |
| Thrice | 45 | 135 | 26 „ | 1 | 26 |
| 4 times | 54 | 136 | 27 „ | 1 | 27 |
| 5 „ | 23 | 115 | 29 „ | 2 | 58 |
| 6 „ | 18 | 108 | 30 „ | 1 | 30 |
| 7 „ | 13 | 91 | 31 „ | 1 | 31 |
| 8 „ | 10 | 80 | 32 „ | 1 | 32 |
| 9 „ | 4 | 36 | 33 „ | 1 | 33 |
| 10 „ | 4 | 40 | 35 „ | 1 | 35 |
| 11 „ | 5 | 55 | 36 „ | 1 | 36 |
| 12 „ | 7 | 84 | 37 „ | 2 | 74 |
| 13 „ | 2 | 26 | 39 „ | 1 | 39 |
| 14 „ | 4 | 56 | 44 „ | 2 | 88 |
| 15 „ | 2 | 30 | 46 „ | 1 | 46 |
| 16 „ | 2 | 32 | 51 „ | 1 | 51 |
| 17 „ | 4 | 68 | | 409 | 2,267 |
| 19 „ | 3 | 57 | Not reported | 342 | |
| 20 „ | 2 | 40 | | | |
| 21 „ | 2 | 42 | Total - | 751 | |
| 23 „ | 2 | 46 | | | |

RETURN of PRISONERS PUNISHED at Brixton Prison for the Year 1855.

| Prisoners Punished. | No. of Prisoners. | No. of Punishments. | Prisoners Punished. | No. of Prisoners. | No. of Punishments. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Once | 113 | 113 | 15 times | 2 | 30 |
| Twice. | 51 | 102 | 16 „ | 4 | 64 |
| Thrice | 18 | 54 | 17 „ | 3 | 51 |
| 4 times | 13 | 52 | 19 „ | 3 | 57 |
| 5 „ | 6 | 30 | 20 „ | 1 | 20 |
| 6 „ | 7 | 42 | 21 „ | 4 | 84 |
| 7 „ | 8 | 56 | 23 „ | 1 | 23 |
| 8 „ | 4 | 32 | 26 „ | 2 | 52 |
| 9 „ | 4 | 36 | 28 „ | 2 | 56 |
| 10 „ | 1 | 10 | 29 „ | 1 | 29 |
| 11 „ | 3 | 33 | | 257 | 1,105 |
| 12 „ | 2 | 24 | Not punished | 494 | |
| 13 „ | 1 | 13 | | | |
| 14 „ | 3 | 42 | Total - | 715 | |

STATEMENT of ARTICLES made by the Prisoners confined in the above Establishment during the year 1855. Superintendent's Report.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Establishment | Shirts | 11,770 |
| ,, | Flannel Shirts | 6,665 |
| ,, | ,, Vests | 4,214 |
| ,, | ,, Drawers | 12,903 |
| ,, | ,, Petticoats | 1,060 |
| ,, | ,, Shifts | 1,183 |
| ,, | ,, Bands | 1,147 |
| ,, | Neck handkerchiefs | 6,215 |
| ,, | Pocket handkerchiefs | 8,190 |
| ,, | Shifts | 1,633 |
| ,, | Day Caps | 1,901 |
| ,, | Night do. | 1,420 |
| ,, | Hose | 969 |
| ,, | Stays | 429 |
| ,, | Bonnets | 1,012 |
| ,, | Serge Jackets | 1,160 |
| ,, | ,, Petticoats | 1,136 |
| ,, | ,, Shawls | 450 |
| ,, | Aprons | 2,020 |
| ,, | Washing Frocks | 160 |
| ,, | Canvas ditto | 16 |
| ,, | Badges | 475 |
| ,, | Children's Frocks | 24 |
| ,, | ,, Pinafores | 171 |
| ,, | Towels | 4,906 |
| ,, | Liberty Dresses | 84 |
| ,, | ,, Petticoats | 171 |
| ,, | Hammock Girths | 100 |
| Establishment | Window Blinds | 9 |
| ,, | Sheets | 827 |
| ,, | Linsey Petticoats | 652 |
| ,, | Uniform Dresses | 95 |
| ,, | Eye Shades | 48 |

SHOP AND PRIVATE WORK.

| | |
|---|---|
| Shirts | 8,201 |
| Flannel Shirts | 72 |
| Military Trowsers | 330 |
| Linsey Jackets | 90 |
| Bed Ticks | 40 |
| Dresses | 69 |
| Crochet and Knitting Work | 268 |
| Needlework (sundry small articles) | 227 |

WASHING.

| | Scores. |
|---|---|
| Milbank | 22,578·14 |
| Pentonville | 8,297·4 |
| Brixton | 18,949·10 |
| Private (single articles) | 28,902 |

Repairing Establishment Linen, &c.
Ditto ditto Clothing.
Ditto ditto Bedding.
Cooking, Baking, Cleaning, &c., for Establishment.

Superintendent's Report.

STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE of BRIXTON PRISON, for the year ended 31st March 1856.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Salaries of principal officers and clerks | 1,815 | 16 | 11 |
| Wages of subordinate officers and servants | 1,811 | 14 | 5 |
| Salaries and wages of manufacturing, or labour department | 288 | 12 | 10 |
| Rations for officers and allowances in lieu thereof | 637 | 17 | 6 |
| Uniforms for officers and servants | 169 | 3 | 8 |
| Victualling prisoners | 5,637 | 7 | 5 |
| Clothing, &c. for prisoners | 1,481 | 8 | 11 |
| Bedding for prisoners | 401 | 14 | 4 |
| Medicines, surgical instruments, &c. | 180 | 19 | 8 |
| Medical comforts, (extras for the sick) | 302 | 9 | 7 |
| Clothing and travelling expenses of prisoners on their liberation | 598 | 18 | 0 |
| Gratuities to convicts | 535 | 6 | 9 |
| Furniture and fittings | 384 | 10 | 11 |
| Kitchen utensils, crockery, cutlery, &c. | 135 | 9 | 11 |
| Fuel and light for general purposes | 1,586 | 16 | 10 |
| Buildings, hulks, and ordinary repairs | 1,179 | 11 | 10 |
| Soap, scouring, and cleaning articles | 744 | 7 | 2 |
| Brushes, brooms, and mops | 122 | 7 | 2 |
| Funeral expenses, inquests, &c. | 29 | 4 | 0 |
| Various small disbursements | 543 | 7 | 8 |
| Rent, rates, and taxes | 113 | 18 | 8 |
| Total | 18,701 | 4 | 2 |
| Deduct amount of sundry receipts, and value of productive labour | 1,626 | 15 | 2 |
| Net expenditure | £17,074 | 9 | 0 |

## II.

## CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

*Brixton Female Convict Prison,*
1855.

GENTLEMEN,

ANOTHER eventful year has passed away, and at its close it becomes my duty to lay before you a report of such particulars, as by the rules of this prison, I am expected to bring under your notice. Chaplain's Report.

In carrying out a system of prison discipline, tried *here* for the *first time* in reference to *female convicts*, it ought not to be a matter of surprise if we were called to meet with difficulties, and to witness many vicissitudes. Nevertheless, in taking a comprehensive view of all that has transpired, I have no hesitation in giving expression to my decided conviction, that there is every reason to persevere in the plans which have been adopted, and "to thank God and take courage" in consideration of the benefits which have already resulted from the system pursued.

The religious and moral condition of a considerable number of the prisoners is encouraging; the influence of truth has a powerful effect in deterring many more from open evil, even where the truth has not been received.

The improvement has been going on, perhaps, *slowly*, but I trust *surely*, and is apparent by the general tone of feeling, the submission of the great body of the prisoners to order and discipline, the anxiety for instruction, and in the formation of habits of industry.

That there should be among such a class of persons as female prisoners, some who set at defiance every means tried to benefit them, may grieve, but ought not to discourage those who are interested in their welfare, especially when we know that in all persons "the heart is deceitful and desperately wicked."

The number of punishments will, in all probability, appear considerable, but on investigation it will be found that they were awarded *chiefly* to *the same persons many times over.*

As far as I can judge, without referring to the report books, numbers of prisoners never incurred a report, and that to many it was not needful to give more than a reprimand.

It became necessary to remove a few to Millbank Prison in consequence of their refractory conduct. And I am afraid that a few others are persevering in an evil course with the hope of having some change from this prison, they *neither know nor care what.* It appears to me very important, and I venture to suggest it, that there should be refractory cells in this place, so constructed that the

Chaplain's Report.

prisoners removed to them should not have the power of disturbing others, or of communicating with those of like minds with themselves. In addition to this, a separate place in chapel, approached by a separate entrance, and an exercising yard for each refractory prisoner. This would lessen the necessity for removal, which is always a relief to restless spirits.

The sudden impulses to which female prisoners especially are subject, might form a useful study, and might lead parents to see the importance of restraining evil tempers in their children in the morning of life. But most of those who have been outrageously bad have had few home influences to touch their hearts, or they ran away from home to avoid them.

One thing, however, has more than ever been impressed upon my mind, that in such cases *punishment* effects *little* or *nothing*. *Isolation, separation* from others, and an effort to deal kindly and firmly with *them alone* would be more likely, with God's blessing, to succeed than anything; but for carrying this out *here*, we want the places suited to it.

The worse a prisoner is, the more *daring* is she found to be, and the more *determined never* to be subdued *by force*. In few places could the truth of the following portion of God's word be more apparent than here: "*A word spoken in season, how good is it.*"

To say to an insubordinate prisoner "Well, if you behave ill again, you must soon be punished;"—"You shall be managed;"—would probably rouse up all her evil passions, and make her refuse even a word of advice. To speak kindly, and to say, "I am grieved to see you thus;" or, if out of punishment, "I am rejoiced to see you now in this state; I hope, with the blessing of God, you will try to go on well for the time to come," will frequently be like oil on the troubled waters. "A word spoken in season, how good is it."

The chapter entitled "The Prison Officer," in the Rev. Mr. Kingsmill's book, is very valuable on this subject. I have referred to this point now, because I have often heard remarks made respecting prison discipline which proved how little is known respecting the plans pursued in prisons under your direction. And I think it is often forgotten that in reformatories *volunteers* only are to be dealt with, and that refractory people can at once be excluded. In prison *all* must remain and be dealt with as best we can.

I, for one, feel thankful for the way in which the subject of reformatories has been taken up, and the value of such asylums cannot be fully estimated. What a mercy to have a door of hope opened for those who are wearied of the miserable life they have been leading, and who are anxious to place themselves under Christian instruction, where they may learn to lead honest, sober, and industrious lives. It is much to be lamented that the promoters of reformatories have such difficulties to contend with for want of funds.

I have to acknowledge your kindness in securing for me the additional schoolmistress which I requested last year. The benefit has been considerable, and some progress has, I trust, been made in the

Chaplain's Report.

education of the prisoners. Still it is a work of considerable difficulty, owing to the lamentable ignorance of female convicts. To those who have been received since my last report the same remarks would apply respecting their ignorance at the time of conviction; but of course there has been an improvement when they were received *here*, in consequence of the time spent at Millbank Prison, where they have the means of instruction afforded them.

The course of instruction in the schools has undergone little or no change, and the books in use are the same.

Several of those prisoners who have been discharged had much improved. Of those who remain in the prison, 200 have decidedly improved, and others are progressing, while others seem satisfied with being able to read and write a little. I am preparing a demand for books for the prison library, and of which we now begin to feel the want. I shall take the liberty of forwarding the list as soon as I can for your approval.

The Lord's Supper was administered three times during the year in the chapel, and once in the infirmary for invalids, who were unable to be present in chapel.*

*Number of Communicants.*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| In April there were | - - - - - - | 226 |
| In September ,, | - - - - - - | 231 |
| In the Infirmary: September there were | - - | 7 |
| ,, December ,, | - - - | 202 |
| Total during the year | - - | 666 |

I find it difficult to administer the Lord's Supper oftener on account of the numbers being considerable, and the consequent time which it takes to instruct the applicants for admission to the Communion. I have constant catechetical lectures on Sunday afternoons, attended by between 250 and 300 *volunteers*, and as far as practicable I pursue the same plan which I mentioned in a former report in reference to these classes and the Bible classes, and the catechetical instruction on Saturday mornings. The prisoners are constantly reminded that no temporal advantage is to be gained by attendance at the Lord's Supper, and that a profession of religion will not secure any advantages over and above those which orderly and proper conduct may procure.

At the commencement of the year, I spent a considerable time in instructing and catechising a class for confirmation. On the 20th of April, the Lord Bishop of Winchester was kind enough to visit the prison, and to administer the rite of confirmation to 206 prisoners and 2 free persons. The occasion was one of deep interest, and will long be remembered by those who were present. Those who were confirmed were very diligent in learning the portion of

* It was administered four times in chapel *within the* 12 *months*, but three times in 1855.

Chaplain's Report.

Scripture from which the bishop addressed them, and which he advised them to commit to memory. Ephes. iii., 14–19.

The efforts of the lady Scripture-reader have been most unwearied, and I believe they have been attended with great benefit. Nothing could be better suited to the circumstances of this prison than the appointment of such a helper, or more happy than the selection of agents which has been made.

I feel much indebted to the lady visitors for their kindness, and to the Committee of the Elizabeth Fry Refuge, and the Dalston Refuge, for attending to my recommendation, and for receiving prisoners from this establishment.

The progressive stages from separate confinement to an increase of privilege for good conduct, in the change of food, and in having permission to walk together, and at intervals to converse together, and the still further extension of privilege granted to the first-class prisoners, who are located in the west wing, are plans which have been devised for encouraging the exertions of the convicts, and which are, I believe, in every way calculated to secure that object.

The formation of a Government Refuge at Burlington House, Fulham, will, I have reason to hope, be attended with very happy results. Begun and carried on as it has been in the spirit of true Christian philanthropy, I have no doubt of its ultimate success. I am thankful that the views to which I ventured to give expression last year on both the above arrangements proved to be in accordance with your own.

One thing seems important to complete the plan. It would be a valuable addition if something could be done to help female prisoners who have passed through the stages of probation in an exemplary manner, to emigrate to Australia or some other land: I feel persuaded they would be useful, and that they might be trusted as well as many who are sent out without any previous discipline or instruction.

I feel grateful that I was permitted to be present when the first stone of the chapel for the Burlington House Refuge was laid, and to offer up the prayer on that interesting occasion.*

The Sunday services have been continued in the chapel in the same way as in other churches, and the week day services are conducted in the usual manner in the morning and evening. One service consists of a portion of Scripture, two verses of a hymn, and a selection of prayers from the Book of Common Prayer. At the other service we sing two verses of a hymn, a few collects are used, and a short lecture delivered. The morning service is generally over in less than a quarter of an hour, and the other service occupies *seldom more, frequently less,* than twenty-five minutes.

For nearly one week I was so unwell that I could only have one service each day, owing to the difficulty of finding a substitute, and that service was kindly undertaken by clerical friends in the neigh-

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* On the 8th of December 1855, the Directors, the Rector of Fulham, and a few others being present, Lady Amelia Jebb laid the first stone of the chapel I venture to send a copy of the prayer used on that occasion.

Chaplain's Report.

bourhood; but this little interruption has not been without its use. Many of the officers have said that it led them to feel more than ever the importance and benefit of the *daily services.* I refer to this now, because I know that some have expressed a different opinion, and that objections have been made to the plan in the public prints, intimating that these advantages cannot be secured out of prison, and that the daily exposition of Scripture is too much.

Let the services be short, the expositions simple, Scriptural, and earnest, and there will be no weariness, and God has promised that His Word shall not return unto him void.

And as the services may be regarded as family prayer for a large household, why should not these advantages be secured out of prison? I humbly trust that some parents who are liberated from this prison will establish family prayer, and I hope that others may be situated in families where God is honoured and the Saviour called upon morning and evening. Nor should we forget that God says He will pour out His fury upon the families which call not upon *His Name.* Jer. x., 25.

It cannot be doubted, I think, that the discipline is in every way improved, and that the officers are, as a body, most anxious and diligent in the discharge of their duties, and that the apparent effects of the discipline are very satisfactory. There is one point upon which I feel it a duty to speak strongly. By everything that has come under my observation, I have been strengthened in the conviction that the association of prisoners *in rooms* is most injurious in every point of view, and that it is a serious evil in reference to the *discipline* and in reference to the *moral improvement* of the prisoners.

The additional accommodation in the infirmary has been a relief. I always regard the infirmary with interest and pleasure. I am sure the care bestowed upon the inmates' bodily and spiritual wants is gratefully acknowledged by them.

Some have died in peace, resting upon Jesus as their only hope. I have heard from the clergyman of the parish of one who was lately pardoned on medical grounds, ending her days in peace, and manifesting anxiety about the souls of her relatives. There are others still suffering who, I believe, are simply and calmly looking to the Saviour, and who are exhibiting their faith by an humble walk with God. The number of invalids seems increased, and I fear will continue to increase, in consequence of the lengthened periods of imprisonment.

Since the prison has been occupied, 123 women have been discharged on licence. I do not think that the results have been at all unsatisfactory, and, all things considered, I may add that I believe the success of the ticket-of-leave system has been quite equal to, I might say beyond, what its framers anticipated.

We have had very pleasing letters from numbers of those who have been discharged; and I believe the number of those who have forfeited their licences is very small.

Chaplain's Report.

It cannot be a matter of surprise that those who have been sentenced to penal servitude should feel bitter distress and disappointment since they have been informed that their time is not to be mitigated.

I have no hesitation in saying that, as a body, they were led to expect, when they received their sentences, and that by *those who sentenced them,* and by those *into whose custody* they were* committed, that good conduct would lead to a mitigation of their respective sentences, and that they would be released on licence. Indeed, I think it probable that in many instances longer sentences were given under this impression. The way in which they have borne the disappointment is an additional proof in my mind, that the general effects of the discipline, combined with the moral and religious instruction, are very satisfactory.

The prisoners seem very grateful for the efforts made for their improvement, and seem anxious, as a body, to give a proof of their gratitude by orderly and submissive conduct, and I trust they are resolved to try and earn their bread by honest industry for he time to come.

Feeling grateful for the kind assistance which I have received from the superintendent and all in authority, and expressing my conviction that there is every encouragement to persevere in the course which has been begun; and praying that God's Word may be abundantly blessed in leading many lost sheep to the Good Shepherd, and in turning them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
JOHN HENRY MORAN,
*Chaplain.*

*To the Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

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PRAYER used when the First Stone of the Chapel for Burlington House Refuge was laid, by Lady AMELIA JEBB, December 8, 1855.

Almighty and most Merciful Father from whom alone all good desires spring, give us grace at this time to come into Thy Holy Presence with reverence and godly fear, and enable us with filial confidence "to worship Thee in spirit and in truth."

We are not worthy of the least of all Thy mercies, for we have sinned against Thee in thought, word, and deed, and "all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags." We confess with shame and sorrow of heart, our individual, our family, and our national sins. Thou hast given us "Thy Holy Sabbaths to be a sign," but we have "*greatly polluted them.*" Thou hast given us Thy Holy Word, but we have not duly regarded it.

Thy Holy Name has been profaned, Thy Holy Spirit has been grieved, and ungodliness has abounded and polluted our land. Oh! Lord, visit not upon us our transgressions, "in wrath remember mercy," and for the

* Not in Government prisons.

Chaplain's Report.

sake of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ our Lord, pardon our sins, blot out our transgressions, and enable us, *as a people*, heartily to return unto Thee, "confessing and forsaking our sins," may "we cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light."

On this important occasion we implore Thy Gracious Presence, and we beseech Thee to "bless us indeed." Fulfil Thy promised word in our happy experience that "where two or three are met together in Thy Name, there Thou wilt be in the midst of them."

Thou that hast built Thy Church upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being "the *chief corner stone*," grant Thy special blessing upon this undertaking. This stone is laid to-day as the corner stone of a material temple to be dedicated to Thy glory. Fulfil Thy promise that in every place where Thou dost record Thy Name Thou wilt come and bless thy people.

May many lively stones be gathered out from this place to form part of that spiritual temple which Thou dost Thyself inhabit.

"May Thine eyes and Thine heart be here perpetually."

When Thy Holy Word is read, may the Holy Spirit, the only Teacher, cause that word to penetrate the heart, and give light and understanding to the simple. When Thy Gospel is proclaimed and Christ is exalted as the only Saviour, may the Spirit apply the truth, that sinners may "look and live, believe and be saved." And may the Gospel trumpet never give an uncertain sound in this place.

When prayer and praise are offered up to Thee, "then hear Thou in Heaven Thy dwelling place, and when Thou hearest forgive."

Pour out Thy blessing upon all connected with this establishment, that those in authority may with *firmness*, *faithfulness*, and *diligence*, yet with sympathy and tenderness rule for Thee, and that the inmates of this place may render a cheerful and ready obedience, receive instruction and correction with thankfulness, and be sent forth industrious, sober, and honest members of society, truly influenced by the fear of Thy Holy Name.

Oh! thou Saviour of sinners, who didst patiently and tenderly instruct and teach the woman of Samaria; oh! gracious Saviour who didst say to that poor erring one who washed Thy feet with her tears and wiped them with the hairs of her head, "thy sins are forgiven thee, go in peace," and who with tears of sympathy didst succour the afflicted; look with pity upon many a weary wanderer in this place who had forsaken the guide of her youth, and speak to the hearts of such that they may hear Thy voice and live, receive pardon through Thy precious blood, renewal by Thy Holy Spirit, and "go and sin no more."

Grant, Lord, Thy blessing to the rising generation, that our youth may be trained up in Thy Holy faith and fear.

We beseech Thee with Thy favour to behold our most gracious Sovereign Lady, Queen Victoria, the Prince Albert, Albert, Prince of Wales, and all the Royal family, and all in authority; send down the healthful spirit of Thy Grace upon our Bishops and Curates, and all congregations committed to their charge.

We praise Thee Gracious Father, for the mercies which we enjoy in this our highly favoured land, the free circulation of Thy Holy Word, the preaching of Thy glorious Gospel, all the means of grace and the hope of glory, and above all we praise Thee for the gift of a Saviour.

We acknowledge Thy goodness, oh! Lord, in putting it into the hearts of those in authority to devise wise and Scriptural plans for the correction and reformation of the fallen, and we praise Thee that the rulers in our

Chaplain's Report.

land have thus tempered mercy with judgment, so that evil doers may feel that "the way of transgressors is hard," but that the hand of mercy is extended to those who are ready to perish.

We beseech Thee to pardon all our sins, negligences, and ignorances, for Thy dear Son's sake, and to accept our praises through His intercession, who has taught us thus to pray :—Our Father, &c.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

# III.

## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER.

GENTLEMEN, *Brixton Prison, January* 11, 1856.

Medical Officer's Report.

I BEG leave to forward my annual Report for the last year.

During the year, 108 prisoners have been received into the prison, 88 were discharged on licence, having completed their terms of imprisonment; 19 have been released on medical grounds; 7 have died, and two cases of insanity have been removed to lunatic asylums.

State of health of prisoners on reception.

The state of health of those prisoners who have been received into the prison was, on reception, as follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| In good health | 89 |
| Delicate health | 8 |
| Permanent invalids | 8 |
| Sent from Millbank Prison as being unfit for separate confinement | 3 |
| Total | 108 |

Discharged prisoners; state of health on discharge.

The state of health of those prisoners liberated on licence, was on discharge, as follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| In good health | 63 |
| Impaired health | 23 |
| Suffering from scrofulous glands, but otherwise in good health, and fit for labour | 2 |
| Total | 88 |

14 of the 23 prisoners returned as being in impaired health, were in good health when convicted. The remaining 9 were in much the same state of health when discharged as when received into prison

The whole of the prisoners released on licence during the year, except one, were sentenced to seven years' transportation, and consequently were liberated at the expiration of three years from the date of conviction. The one prisoner I have referred to was sentenced to ten years' transportation, and she was discharged in impaired health at the end of three years and a half. Her health began to fail about six months previous to her release.

Medical Officer's Report.

Nineteen prisoners have been discharged, in addition to the number before mentioned, on medical recommendation, on accountt of serious disease, endangering life.

Pardons on medical grounds.

The particulars of each case of medical pardon, together with the state of health of the prisoners when received into this prison, are given in Table No. 2.

Six of the number were in good health when received.

The second case on the Table, register No. 180, must have been labouring under consumption in a very early stage when received. for indications of this disease appeared a few days after she was sent to this prison, though on reception she seemed to be in good health.

Prisoners admitted into the infirmary.

190 prisoners have been admitted into the infirmary. The following were the principal diseases treated :—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Asthma | 2 | Diarrhœa, chronic | 3 |
| Bronchitis | 6 | Peritonitis, tubercular | 2 |
| Pneumonia | 2 | Rheumatism, acute | 4 |
| Pleurisy | 4 | Erysipelas | 3 |
| Phthisis | 9 | Debility | 27 |
| Hæmoptysis | 2 | Scurvy | 1 |
| Fever, continued | 2 | Child-birth | 1 |
| Jaundice | 2 | Fractures | 2 |
| Dysentery | 1 | | |

The only remarks I have to make, with reference to the diseases named above, are on the comparatively large number of cases of debility. Nearly the whole of the women who suffered were in good health when convicted. The feeling of weakness was in some preceded for five, six, or eight weeks by loss of appetite; in others, weakness was first complained of, and the appetite failed a few weeks after. Each case was treated in the wards, but without benefit, previous to being sent to the infirmary, and all the patients complained of extreme weakness, emaciation, and loss of appetite. The health of nearly all began to fail about six months before they were admitted to the infirmary.

The cause of the failure of health in these cases I believe to be entirely due to imprisonment.

I beg leave, whilst writing on these cases of debility, respectfully to express my fears as to *the ultimate effect* of lengthened imprisonment on the health of the *female* prisoners sentenced *to penal servitude.*

In carrying out the sentences of these prisoners, the disadvantages, in point of health, to the women, compared with those of the men, are of considerable importance, and will prove, I fear, to be serious.

I think it very likely that the women, on account of their previous domestic habits of life, will bear the first fifteen or eighteen months of their sentences in prison even better than the men. But after the expiration of this period of time the male prisoners, for the remaining portions of their sentences, are put in a position as regards the effect of employment and habits of life on the health nearly or quite equal to that of the labouring classes generally, whereas the women must remain *within* the prison walls.

Medical Officer's Report.

The majority of the women, without doubt, will go through the whole period of penal servitude, and apparently without any injury to health resulting therefrom.

But, judging from what I have been able to observe of the effect of imprisonment on the health of the female prisoners who have been, and of those who are now confined, in this prison, I believe that *after the expiration of the third year of imprisonment* the health of many will fail, and I do not think that the whole period of penal servitude can be passed in prison without causing fatal disease in some, and in very many others such a condition of permanent ill health as will prevent them from again supporting themselves.

It is, I think, of importance to notice that hitherto no woman discharged from this prison has been in confinement for so long a period as four years. All, except one, who were discharged during the last year, were liberated at the end of three years. The one mentioned as the exception was released in ill health at the end of three years and six months.

Deaths.

The deaths during the year are recorded in Table No. 1. The health on reception, and other particulars belonging to each case, are given in the table.

Cases of insanity.

Two cases of insanity have been removed to asylums. (See Table No. 3.) The first case on the table, register No. 482, was mentioned in my report for the year 1854. But as insanity was not decidedly manifest until late in December of that year, the history of the case was not given in the report.

The prisoner was received into this prison from Newgate in July 1854. Her health was good on reception, and continued so during the time she was here.

Early in November (1854), when in association in the east wing, she was first noticed to be low-spirited and frequently crying. The lowness of spirits increased, and towards the end of the month she discontinued her work, and was almost constantly crying. She was removed to the infirmary on the 5th of December, and soon after she became very violent, and had delusions that she was "poisoned by medicine, and that each night was to be her last on earth." She continued in the same condition until her removal to Bethlem Hospital, on the 25th January of the last year.

This prisoner had been of most intemperate habits for many years, and, I believe, also previously insane.

The second case of insanity on the Table, A. R., was a thin and feeble invalid when sent from Millbank prison in June 1854. She was in the infirmary, being too weak and feeble to remain in the prison. Insanity began in April (1855) whilst in the infirmary, and appeared to have been caused by continued sorrow and anxiety about her children. Her only daughter died in the summer of 1854, and of her only remaining child, a son, she could hear no tidings, and she was homeless and without friends.

Her delusions were "that she was unjustly confined and kept out of the way to deprive her of her property, that her children were kept from her, that she heard her daughter continually crying to her in distress, and that the prison was supported by her property."

Medical Officer's Report.

Towards the end of June she became so violent that it was necessary to keep her closely confined, and frequently she was dangerous to those in immediate charge of her. She was removed to Fisherton House, near Salisbury, on the 20th of July.

Complaining sick.

The principal complaints constituting the cases of complaining sick, treated in the wards of the prison, are given in Table No. 4.

The diseases were mostly mild in character, and with reference to the number of applications, which at first sight seems large, I can only repeat the remark, as to the cause of so large a number, that I made when writing on the same subject in my last report, viz., the tendency of women of this class to apply for relief for the most trifling ailments.

There has been an unusually large number of cases of diarrhœa treated in the prison in the past year. On the 23d and 24th of March about half of the prisoners in each wing of the prison were suddenly seized with this disease. The outbreak lasted only two days, but during that short time 195 cases required treatment; every case was mild, none needing admission into the infirmary. The disease ceased as suddenly as it appeared. I am unable to account for so sudden an appearance of this disease, for the prisoners in the old prison cells almost entirely escaped, though they were fed, clothed, and exercised in precisely the same way as the prisoners in the wings. It is so far satisfactory to know that the attack did no serious harm, either at the time or in its after results.

No case of suicide has occurred.

Attempts at suicide.

Three suicidal attempts have been made. Two of the three were so evidently feigned, with the view of getting into association in the large rooms, that I do not consider it necessary to enter into details respecting them.

The third attempt was made on the last day of the year; and it was done in such a way, as at once showed that the prisoner did not intend self-destruction. But there are circumstances connected with this case which are worthy of notice. The prisoner is a young woman, a widow with two children. Her husband, a soldier in the 46th Regiment, was killed before Sebastopol in the early part of the last year, she being at the time in this prison. Since the death of her husband she has been sometimes overwhelmed with grief, and at other times reckless in conduct and apparently careless and indifferent about her future condition.

She made an attempt to suspend herself by a piece of a blanket not sufficiently strong to support the weight of her body.

She is now in the infirmary, with the appearance of a person suffering great mental distress and deep sorrow.

Dietary.

No change has been made in the dietary of the prison, except in accordance with the recent regulations, that of allowing the first-class prisoners tea every night, instead of three nights in each week.

Warming.

The warming of these wards and the ventilation of the cells in the wings are being provided for.

The ventilation of the new wings has been considerably improved by opening the lights in the roofs; indeed, as far as the body of each wing is concerned, it is now perfect.

Medical Officer's Report.

I must, however, respectfully beg leave to again state that the cell s of the wings are still very close, and after being shut for a short time, the atmosphere becomes very unpleasant and oppressive. I must also beg to be allowed to repeat the opinion that I have before expressed, that a more direct admission of pure air into each cell from without, seems really necessary, and that this can only be accomplished by opening a part of each cell window.

Ventilation.

During the last summer months a pane of glass was taken out of all the cell windows in both wings, by order of the director, on my recommendation ; there were disadvantages arising from the removal of the glass, such as the inability to close the windows at night, or during unfavourable weather ; but the prisoners expressed the comfort they derived during the whole of the summer, and the benefit to the health of the women was also evident.

The general medical statistics for the year are given in Table No. 5.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

J. D. Rendle, *Surgeon.*

*To the Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons.*

## Table No. 1.—Deaths during the Year 1855.

| Reg. No. | Initials. | Age on Conviction. | Cause of Death. | Date of Death. | Where and when convicted. | Sentence. | When received at Brixton. | Whence received. | State of Health on Reception. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 259 | J. C. - | 40 | Asthma - - - - | 5 Feb. 1855 - | Usk, 17 Oct. 1853 | 15 | 28 April 1854 | Usk - - - | Had suffered from attacks of asthma for the last 15 years. |
| 567 | M. L. - | 63 | Bronchitis - - - | 23 Feb. 1855 | Worcester, 5 Jan. 1854 | 4 | 21 Aug. 1854 | Worcester - | Thin and feeble, and suffering from chronic cough. She was put in the convalescent ward on reception. |
| 484 | A. M. - | 46 | Bronchitis - - - | 16 June 1855 | Manchester, 3 Aug. 1853. | 7 | 20 July 1854 | Manchester - | Good. |
| 678 | J. R. - | 26 | Pulmonary consumption - | 19 July 1855 | Derby, 14 Mar. 1854. | 20 | 14 April 1855 | Millbank Prison | Delicate, and also for the last two years previous to her imprisonment. |
| 436 | J. C. - | 30 | Chronic diarrhœa and tubercular disease of the abdomen. | 18 Sept. 1855 | Stirling, 21 April 1853. | 7 | 11 July 1854 | Stirling - - | Good. |
| 45 | E. S. - | 18 | Pulmonary consumption - | 14 Nov. 1855 | Preston, 2 Dec. 1852. | 7 | 24 Nov. 1853 | Millbank Prison | Good. |
| 606 | E. L. - | 41 | Hæmatemesis and tubercular disease of the abdomen. | 29 Nov. 1855 | Manchester, 17 June 1853. | 7 | 7 Sept. 1854 - | Manchester - | Good on admission, but she had suffered from hæmatemesis when in Manchester prison. |

TABLE No. 2.—PARDONS on MEDICAL GROUNDS during the Year 1855.

| Reg. No. | Initials. | Age on Conviction. | Disease for which Pardoned. | When received at Brixton. | Whence received. | Sentence. | When and where convicted. | Date of Discharge by Licence. | State of Health on Reception. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 150 | E. McG. | 16 | Pulmonary consumption - | 14 Feb. 1854 | Millbank Prison | 7 | Durham, 3 Jan. 1853. | 16 Jan. 1855 - | Delicate. |
| 180 | A. C. - | 20 | Pulmonary consumption - | March 1854 | Liverpool - - | 10 | Liverpool, 25 July 1853. | 19 Jan. 1855 - | Apparently good, but she complained of illness and suffered from cough a few days after she was received. |
| 100 | S. W. - | 46 | Diseased elbow joint - | 10 Feb. 1854 | Millbank Prison | 7 | Leicester, 3 Jan. 1853. | 20 Jan. 1855 - | An invalid ; elbow joint diseased for many years. |
| 26 | J. D. - | 39 | Recovering from an attack of apoplexy. | 24 Nov. 1853 | Millbank Prison | 7 | Exeter, 19 Oct. 1852. | 16 Feb. 1855 - | Good. |
| 8 | E. M'L. | 19 | Debility, after a severe attack of pleurisy. | 24 Nov. 1853 | Millbank Prison | 7 | Glasgow, 28 Sept. 1852. | 3 March 1855 - | Good. |
| 31 | M. T. - | 18 | Scrofula and consumption | 24 Nov. 1853 | Millbank Prison | 7 | Edinburgh, 9 Nov. 1852. | 27 March 1855 - | Delicate and suffering from scrofula. |
| 404 | M. D. - | 18 | Pulmonary consumption - | 27 June 1854 | Glasgow - - | 7 | Glasgow, 4 May 1853. | 30 March 1855 - | Thin and suffering from cough, with expectoration. |
| 523 | C. Q. - | 49 | Asthma - - - - | 3 Aug. 1854 | Perth - - | 6 | Perth, 30 Sept. 1853. | 23 April 1845 - | A feeble invalid. This prisoner would have been rejected as unfit for reception on account of the state of her health; but when she arrived at this prison from Bath, she was too weak and ill to immediately bear the journey back. |
| 538 | E. M. - | 20 | Pulmonary consumption - | 4 Aug. 1854 | Westminster - | 4 | Clerkenwell, 14 Nov. 1853. | 28 April 1855 - | Delicate. |

TABLE No. 2.—PARDONS on MEDICAL GROUNDS—*continued.*

| Reg. No. | Initials. | Age on Conviction. | Disease for which Pardoned. | When received at Brixton. | Whence received. | Sentence. | When and where convicted. | Date of Discharge by Licence. | State of Health on Reception. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 383 | A. Q. - | 45 | Scrofula and debility - | 8 June 1854 | Millbank Prison | 7 | Knutsford, 5 Jan. 1853. | 30 April 1855 - | An invalid, suffering from scrofula. |
| 126 | E. T. - | 22 | Weak mind - - - | 10 Feb. 1854 | Millbank Prison | 7 | Salford, 28 Feb. 1853. | 30 April 1855 - | Weak-minded. |
| 97 | A. W. - | 28 | Epileptic fits and despond-ing. | 10 Feb. 1854 | Millbank Prison | 7 | Edinburgh, 21 Dec. 1852. | 30 April 1855 - | Suffering from epileptic fits. |
| 377 | L. J. - | 44 | Epilepsy. Also suffered from a large bronchocele, and which, by pressing on the trachea, impeded respiration. | 8 June 1854 | Millbank Prison | 10 | Usk, 25 May 1852. | 26 May 1855 - | An invalid, and suffering from epilepsy. |
| 241 | C. M$^{c}$K. | 18 | Large chronic abscesses in the back and in each axilla. | 18 April 1854 | Millbank Prison | 7 | Glasgow, 28 Sept. 1852. | 16 June 1855 - | Suffering from a large chronic abscess in the back, consequent on an injury by a machine, when employed in the laundry at Millbank. |
| 154 | M.A.B. | 22 | Pulmonary consumption - | 14 Feb. 1854 | Millbank Prison | 7 | Exeter, 4 Jan. 1853. | 13 Sept. 1855 - | Good. |
| 501 | J.M$^{c}$P. | 28 | Dropsy, with disease of the kidneys. | 1 Aug. 1854 | Edinburgh - | 4 | Edinburgh, 10 Nov. 1853. | 14 Sept. 1855 - | Apparently good. |
| 329 | E. W - | 17 | Pulmonary consumption - | 24 May 1854 | Westminster - | 10 | Clerkenwell, 11 April, 1853. | 22 Nov. 1855 - | Good. |
| 246 | G. M. - | 29 | Debility - - - - | 18 April 1854 | Millbank Prison | 7 | Liverpool, 7 Feb. 1853. | 23 Nov. 1855 - | Good. |
| 370 | M.A.M. | 52 | Pulmonary consumption - | 26 May 1854 | Millbank Prison | 7 | Lewes, 23 Feb. 1853. | 23 Nov. 1855 - | A feeble invalid. |

TABLE No. 3.—INSANE PRISONERS during the Year 1855.

| Register No. | Initials. | Age. | Date of Reception. | Whether previously Insane. | Character of present Attack. | When the first Symptoms appeared. | Whence received. | Date of Removal. | Whither removed. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 482 | E. M$^{c}$ N. | 25 | 19 July 1854 | Not certainly known, but the impression is, that she had previously been the subject of insane delusions. | Delusions, and frequently very violent and dangerous to those around her. | November 1854 | Newgate | 25 Jan. 1855 | Bethlem Hospital. |
| 378 | A. R. - | 47 | 8 June 1854 | Not known - - - - | Delusions, occasionally violent and dangerous. | April 1855 - | Millbank | 20 July 1855 | Fisherton Asylum. |

TABLE No. 4.—PRINCIPAL COMPLAINTS, constituting the Cases of "Complaining Sick," treated in the Wards of the Prison during the Year 1855.

| —— | Diarrhœa. | Dyspepsia. | Coughs ; Colds ; Rheumatism. | Constipation. | Surgical complaints. | Other cases. | Total. | Total of all Cases. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| New cases - - - | 725 | 3 | 552 | 511 | 334 | 1,474 | 3,599 | 14,403 |
| Renewed applications - | 406 | 53 | 2,505 | 488 | 896 | 6,456 | 10,804 | |

TABLE No. 5.—MEDICAL STATISTICS of the Year 1855.

| Daily Average No. of Prisoners in the Prison. | Deaths. | Released on Licence on Medical grounds. | No. of Sick admitted to the Infirmary. | Daily Average No. of Infirmary Sick. | "Complaining Sick" during the Year. | | | | Number of Cases of Diarrhœa. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | New Cases. | Renewed Applications. | Total No. of all Cases. | Daily Average No. of all Cases of "Complaining Sick." | |
| 633·821 | 7 | 19 | 190 | 33 | 3,599 | 10,804 | 14,403 | 39·46 | 725 |

LONDON:
Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

# REPORT

ON THE

# DISCIPLINE AND MANAGEMENT

OF THE

# MILITARY PRISONS,

## 1855.

By COLONEL JEBB, C.B.,
Inspector-General of Military Prisons, &c.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1856.

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# REPORT

ON THE

# DISCIPLINE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE MILITARY PRISONS,

1855.

By Col. JEBB, C.B., Inspector General.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.*

To the Right Hon. Lord Panmure, Secretary of State for War.

My Lord, 27th June 1856.

In compliance with your directions, I have the honour to submit a report for the year 1855, on the discipline and management of the Prisons established for the confinement of military offenders, under the provisions of the Mutiny Act.

As various improvements have been introduced into the administration of the army, and others are under discussion, it would appear very desirable that the principle on which the discipline of the Military Prisons is conducted should again be brought under your consideration.

I would propose, therefore, before entering upon the statistics which have been prepared in a very comprehensive form by Mr. Dumergue, briefly to explain the views of Earl Cathcart's committee, on which the discipline was originally established.

This information will enable any one desirous of acquainting himself with the subject, to see how far it appears adapted for the repression of crime in the army; and a subsequent reference to the statistics will show how far

experience will have justified the expectations of those who incurred the responsibility of recommending, or giving sanction to it.

The appointment of a committee to consider, and report on, the measures necessary for the establishment of prisons exclusively for military offenders, originated in 1842 with the present Lord Hardinge, then Secretary-at-War.*

After some preliminary discussion the Commander-in-Chief concurred in the nomination of the following officers to be members of the committee for investigating the subject :—

Lieut.-General Earl Cathcart, President.

Colonel T. Grant, commanding Grenadier Guards.

Colonel Henry Godwin, late commanding 41st regiment.

Major J. Jebb, R.E. Surveyor-General of Prisons.

Rev. D. Nihill, late Governor of Millbank Penitentiary.

The committee in their general report, dated 9th May 1844, make the following observations and suggestions.

1st. As regards the Mutiny Act, they refer to the 27th and 28th clauses of the act for that year, as follows :—

The 27th clause has been enacted for the purpose of giving to the superior Officer in command, whose duty it may be to confirm the sentence of a Court Martial, the power, which he did not previously possess, of selecting the place, whether a Civil Gaol or a Military Prison, in which the offender is to be confined, and from which he may at any time remove the Prisoner, in order that the Prisoner may undergo the remainder, or any part of his sentence, in some other public Prison, or place of confinement ; and, henceforward, Courts Martial will not, in their sentences, notice the place of imprisonment.

The 28th clause gives all the necessary powers to the Secretary at War for the establishment of Military Prisons, and also enables him to appoint Visitors, with powers co-extensive with those of Visiting Justices to Civil Gaols ; also to appoint and remove Governors, and all other Officers ; to make, alter, and repeal Rules and Regulations ; and generally to exercise, with respect to Military Prisons, all the powers which now are, or hereafter may be vested in any of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State with respect to County Gaols or Houses of Correction.

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* The Extract from a Memorandum on the Question, by his Grace the Duke of Wellington, together with a Letter from the Secretary-at-War to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, and, also, the Instructions of Sir James Graham on the subject, are annexed, Appendix, A. Page 31.

Addressing themselves to the important question, whether it might not be desirable to mature, for the future, a permanent scheme as regards the establishment of Prisons in which military offenders alone shall be confined, and in which they might be subjected to the discipline and punishment best suited to their military habits, and to the nature of their offences, the Committee took into consideration the observations bearing upon this subject in the valuable minute of the Secretary at War, under date of the 24th May 1842, the elaborate discussion of the Home Inspectors in their Report of 1837, and the opinions of various military authorities referred to in those and other documents. Guided by such information, they could not fail to arrive at a decisive conclusion in favour of a permanent scheme as regards the establishment of Military Prisons.

Having resolved on recommending Prisons exclusively for Military offenders, the next duty of the Committee was to organize the system best calculated to render those establishments effective, and to prepare in detail a Code of Rules and Regulations for their proper management.

The principal points to which, in the performance of this task, the attention of the Committee was necessarily directed, were foreseen and enumerated in their Letter of Instruction, in the following terms, viz: "The nature of the confinement; the system of drill; the hard labour, the diet, the clothing, the bedding of the Prisoners; the powers to be given to the Officers in charge to repress refractory and insubordinate conduct amongst the prisoners whilst undergoing their sentences; what description of punishment should be resorted to; and what establishment of Officers and Non-commissioned Officers will be necessary to enforce discipline and punishment in these Prisons; the subject of the general superintendence of these Prisons by Visiting Officers; the nature of the books and records of the daily state of these Prisons, for the purpose of enabling the Visiting Officers to form an accurate judgment of the system pursued; who, in the opinion of the Committee, should be the Visiting Officers; and the forms of the Reports which ought to be made periodically to the Commander-in-Chief, and to the Officer commanding the Regiment, on the termination of the soldier's confinement."

Two species of punishment were to be provided for, viz., solitary confinement, and imprisonment with hard labour.

In reference to the former, the Committee did not see occasion to propose any change in the principle of the existing law. They merely suggested an amendment, which has been incorporated into the Mutiny Act, for enabling Courts Martial to sentence Prisoners to solitary confinement not only to periods not exceeding one month at a time, or three months at different times, with intervals of not less than one month, but also for shorter periods, with intervals of not less duration than the periods of solitary confinement.

With reference to the ordinary punishment, the Committee waived all idea of carrying it into execution by means of what is technically called the separate system. Without contesting the general merits of that system, they felt precluded from its adoption in South Sea Castle and Fort Clarence by the construction of those fortresses; and moreover, they did not consider it called for in the case of soldiers, by the same reasons which form its chief ground of recommendation in Civil Gaols.

Influenced by such considerations, the Committee were led to propose a system of associated labour, under a rule of silence; but upon this they grafted a principle to which they were disposed to attach very considerable importance. The principle to which they alluded was, that of Classification, and this, not by determining each prisoner to a particular class from the sole and exclusive consideration of the character of the offence of which he happens to be convicted, (which might lead to much practical error,) but by a combination of the various reasons which bear upon the question in each several instance. This scheme of classification also admits of the promotion or degradation of the prisoners, according to their behaviour; and, by operating on their hopes and fears, it was expected to have a very beneficial tendency in the way both of example and of encouragement.

On the subject of diet, the general view of the Committee was, that the diet should be such as would maintain the prisoner in perfect health, so that on rejoining his Corps he should be in a fit state for immediate duty. It was, however, of obvious importance, that only such comfort as might be actually required for promoting his health should be allowed; and that a Prisoner should be made to feel, during the whole period of his confinement, that his state and condition in Prison was, in all respects, much worse than when he was doing his duty with his Regiment.

*Garrison and Barrack Cells.*

While the Committee laboured to frame a system which might render the District Prisons as effective as possible, they turned their serious attention to the important object of diminishing the necessity of commitment to those places. In aiming at this end, they were not regardless of the saving of public expense which would arise from its attainment; but their primary motive was the benefit to the Service generally, and to the soldiers themselves in particular. In this view, the Committee strongly felt the expediency of establishing some efficacious means of repressing, by prompt and salutary punishment, those minor offences which, for want of due coercion, prove, in numerous instances, the precursors and parents of more serious delinquency. They were of opinion that the power already possessed by Commanding Officers of Regiments was inadequate to this purpose, and were led, in the course of their investigations, and indeed by their express instructions, to turn their attention to the cells which had been erected at some of the Military Stations in England. Considering the facility of applying those cells to the object in view, and also the advantage of extending throughout the service one uniform system of regimental imprisonment, by the erection of barrack cells wherever required, the Committee brought the subject fully under notice.

On the subject of garrison and barrack cells they make the following observations in their report, dated the 28th March 1854.

"We deem it to be necessary in each garrison, or large barrack, to provide proper cells for the imprisonment of military offenders; and we are persuaded, that the general adoption of such a principle would be conducive to discipline, and prove highly advantageous to the service. We are, however, of opinion, that such cells should only be considered available for short periods of confinement. We consider that sentences of confinement not exceeding twenty-eight days, and all imprisonment by order of the Commanding Officer, can conveniently be carried into effect in such cells; but that all prisoners sentenced to longer periods of confinement, should undergo their punishment in the District Military Prisons, where a more suitable staff, and a more corrective and reformatory discipline could be maintained, than it would be possible to establish in so many very small Prisons."

In order to render garrison cells, or regimental cells, available in reducing the number of Courts Martial, and to secure the beneficial results which might be expected from the general adoption of the proposed principle, they were of opinion, that it was essential that the powers of Commanding Officers, in awarding periods of confinement, should be extended to seven days, and that stoppage of pay (with the exception of a sum not exceeding 6*d.* per day, to be drawn for subsistence) should accompany the order of confinement to the cell by the Commanding Officer, as it then did the sentence of a Regimental or District Court Martial.

They, however, proposed that this increased power should only be delegated to Field Officers, and that when a detachment might be under the command of an officer of inferior rank, the sentence of confinement for a longer period than is now awarded should be subject to the approval of a superior officer.

The Committee submitted, that the Regulations for the government of such garrison or barrack cells, as well as those for the District Military Prisons, should emanate from, and be confirmed by the Secretary at War, who should have the power to amend and alter them from time to time, as might seem to him expedient. That in large garrisons, where cells are liable to be occupied by soldiers of different regiments, a permanent Provost-Serjeant should be appointed, with an assistant or more from among the non-commissioned officers according to the strength of the garrison, to regulate the Prison discipline, and to see that the prisoners have proper diet, according to their sentences. That the Provost Non-commissioned Officers should also perform the duty of Military Police, being actively employed in keeping bad characters away from the barracks, in preventing irregularities throughout the garrison, and frequently visiting the canteen to prevent drunkenness and irregularities. That in barracks occupied by the head quarters of a regiment, or where several companies are together, Regimental Provost Serjeants should be appointed, with similar duties.

They considered it should be an established rule, that the cells should be inspected, and each prisoner in confinement be visited daily by the officer of the day from the nearest barrack, and by the Field Officer of the day, as he would visit a Guard; also by the Chaplain and Medical Officer.

That regular reports of such inspections, together with a separate report from the Provost Serjeant, should be made daily to the Commandant or Commanding Officer, in a form

to be prescribed in the Regulations, and that a monthly abstract of such reports should be forwarded from each garrison or barrack to the Adjutant-General and the Secretary at War.

They were of opinion, that the diet of prisoners in confinement in such cells should be on a regulated scale, subject only to alteration in particular cases, under authority of the Surgeon. They also suggested, that in cases where prisoners might be sent into confinement from a regiment or detachment quartered at an inconvenient distance, such prisoners should be temporarily attached to the regiment in occupation of the nearest barrack, and dieted by them, in order to avoid the trouble and expense of a separate cooking establishment; such men to be attached, if necessary, till a convenient opportunity occurred of sending them to their regiments.

They were of opinion, that if the period of confinement in the barrack cells were limited to twenty-eight days, it would be unnecessary to go the expense of either making the cells so large, or fitting them so expensively as would be required for carrying into effect sentences for longer periods; and conceived, that for all practical purposes, a cell 10 feet long by 6 feet 6 inches wide, and 9 feet high, provided it were well ventilated, would be sufficiently large for carrying into effect a sentence of solitary confinement for twenty-eight days. It appeared, however, essential to annex to every block of cells, in garrisons or at head-quarter stations, suitable quarters for the Provost Serjeant: and in cases where an assistant was permanently required, for that officer also.

With reference to the proposed forfeiture of an offender's pay when committed for periods not exceeding seven days by Commanding Officers, the Committee considered, "That when a man by misconduct disqualifies himself for the performance of duty, he cannot justly claim that pay to which the performance of duty can alone entitle him."*

*Duration of Sentence.*

They did not omit to give their special attention to the following points suggested by Field Marshal His Grace the Duke of Wellington, viz., "the duration of imprisonment;" and the question "whether men who have been in confinement in the proposed Prisons, might not be

* It would appear expedient that a similar forfeiture should accompany the crime of drunkenness, which equally incapacitates a man from the performance of duty.

deprived of some of the indulgences and advantages of the Service."

Applying themselves to these questions, the Committee submitted the following observations:—

"Under the existing law, District and General Courts Martial have an unlimited power with respect to the periods for which they may award imprisonment, except in the case of solitary confinement, in which their sentences are governed by prescribed rules. The effect may be, and sometimes is, to extend a man's imprisonment, and consequently his absence from duty, to one, or even two years. It is also to be borne in mind, that under the existing law, a soldier does not reckon as service the periods during which he is undergoing imprisonment by sentence of a Court Martial, and that his pay is stopped, with the exception of 6*d.* a-day drawn for his subsistence."

Now it is generally admitted, that the punishment of imprisonment, if too long protracted, loses much of its moral effect, from the prisoner's becoming callous to his situation, and, therefore, that no sufficient advantage is gained to compensate for the evil of his being so long absent from his regiment.

The Committee, therefore, recommended that the actual detention of a soldier in prison shall not exceed six months, except by sentence of a General Court Martial.

As connected, however, with this limitation of time, they recommended, that in cases of re-conviction, Courts Martial should be empowered to subject the offender not only to the loss of service during the period of his imprisonment, but also (if they thought fit) to a further deduction from his service; such additional forfeiture not to exceed six months at any one time, except by the sentence of a General Court Martial.

*Encouragement to the Good Soldier.*

In connexion with this subject, the Committee suggested, that *the encouragement of the well-conducted soldier is no less conducive to the good order of the Service than the punishment of the bad*, and made several recommendations for carrying out the principle.

The Committee concluded their report in the following terms: "That to entertain the idea of totally abolishing military or any other offences, by mere human means, would be a groundless and visionary expectation. Nevertheless, they trust that they have been instrumental in framing a system which may prove, in an important degree, a remedy

for many of the evils which have of late years been the subject of complaint, and at the same time of promoting the comfort and improvement of the non-commissioned officers and privates, as well as the general advantage of the Service. They are far from imagining that any scheme they could devise would be free from many imperfections; but as time and experience develop them, they will also suggest the best practical amendments."

The foregoing were the general views of Lord Cathcart's committee.

*General Observations.*

The system of discipline framed upon them having been in operation for about 10 years, and, during the whole of that period, having been superintended by Visitors composed of Commanding Officers of regiments, and others under the General Officers in command of districts; considerable information on the subject is diffused throughout the army, and sufficient experience has, I think, been gained to afford grounds for believing that by the adoption of the improvements that have from time to time been suggested; the Secretary-of-War has had the opportunity of placing the whole system on an effective footing.

There are, however, two points upon which there will always exist a difference of opinion, namely:

Whether the discipline is sufficiently severe to deter from crime, or whether it can be safely relaxed in favour of instruction and moral training?

These questions, though apparently simple, involve a principle of penal discipline, on which there has been much discussion. On the one hand it has been contended that positive hard labour, as distinguished from simple employment, should be exacted in order to render imprisonment more irksome and distasteful. If this be attained, it is assumed that a sentence may operate widely in the way of example, by inspiring a salutary dread of a prison in the minds of the soldiers generally, and at the same time deter individuals from again committing crime from fear of punishment. On the other hand it has been urged that the infliction of penal labour will not generally conduce to the reformation of prisoners, nor be calculated to promote habits of industry, which it is very desirable to inculcate, and, therefore, that useful employment and instruction should be substituted for hard labour.

It will be admitted by all that punishment and reformation are the main objects of penal discipline, and the question to be considered is the due adjustment of these elements.

The provision made for these combined objects of imprisonment will be best understood by a consideration of the rules inserted at p. 41, Appendix.

In studying the routine of discipline it will be seen that the prisoners are under strict superintendence and control from six o'clock in the morning till eight o'clock at night, and have a fair share of hard labour to perform, consisting of shot exercise, drill, picking oakum, breaking stones, &c. In those prisons where separate cells are provided each prisoner takes his meals alone, and sleeps in his cell. In other prisons which were converted from existing buildings the prisoners are associated at meals, and sleep in large rooms, or bomb proofs, but night and day they are under close supervision, and the strictest silence is maintained on all occasions.

If this routine be compared with the ordinary discipline of civil prisons, it will be found that, although the hard labour is of a less degrading character, it is fully as severe, and if all the objects to be obtained in the case of a soldier be considered, it is perhaps questionable whether a much greater amount of penal labour could be advantageously introduced into the system.

2dly. As regards the reformation and welfare of a prisoner, the rules for the guidance of the Governors and Chaplains will be found in the Appendix, page 39.

With reference to the operation of the system, there will be found, in former reports, extracts from the annual reports of officers commanding regiments on its effects in repressing crime in the army. The independent opinions of experienced officers on such a subject will be of great value in pointing out any apparent or assumed defects in the details of discipline, and in suggesting what in their judgment would improve the system.

I will briefly notice the leading points, and submit for your Lordship's consideration such observations as occur to me on the subject:—

1st. Among soldiers, as in all other bodies of men, there are to be found reckless and incorrigible characters who can neither be subdued by punishment, nor encouraged to good conduct by kindness and forbearance, and it is very generally admitted that repeated and lengthened terms of imprisonment fail in their effect with such men, from their becoming habituated to the confinement, and thus ceasing to have any dread of it. During long periods of confinement there is also a great loss of service, a constant

additional duty is thrown on the well-conducted soldier, and discredit is brought upon a regiment by the misconduct of, it may be, a very few men. Such characters are worse than useless in the service, and it is the opinion of many officers that, after repeated trials, they should be marked so as to prevent re-enlistment, and then be discharged.

The advantage of this course in the cases of hardened and incorrigible characters cannot be doubted, for whatever expense may have been incurred in training the soldier, no service is afterwards rendered to compensate for it. On the other hand, however, it must not be forgotten, that if the discharge of all such men were to become an established practice, and that great facilities were afforded for getting rid of them, it might operate with some as an inducement to commit crime with a view to obtain a discharge.

2ndly. Several officers express their opinion that the discipline of Military Prisons is not even yet sufficiently stringent and severe; that the comfort of the prisons, the facilities for cleanliness, the good diet, the bedding and warm clothing, contrast favourably with the discomfort of many barracks and half billet stations, and with the onerous duties, especially during inclement weather, that fall to the lot of soldiers serving with their regiments; others, who take a warm interest in the welfare of the *individual*, would advocate less labour and more instruction.

This question is of paramount importance; in considering it, however, it is necessary to keep in mind the different objects which are to be obtained in order that we may not lose sight of their relative proportions, and be carried away with the one idea of either punishment or reformation.

The repression of crime by corrective discipline depends mainly on the punishment operating widely as *an example*, and thus exercising a deterring influence on others, and in a minor degree by the individual himself being deterred from future offence from fear of the consequences, or by his being so reformed that he ceases to commit crime from a better motive than that of fear.

The first of these objects will be promoted by carrying into effect a system of discipline known to be of a severe and stringent character, such as will make men prudently resolve to keep clear of it if they can. It should also dwell on the memory of one who has once been subject to it, as a disagreeable and certain consequence of crime, and thus tend to prevent its repetition.

At the same time, however, that a severe discipline with more extended objects is maintained, there can be no doubt

that efforts should be made to prevent the repetition of crime by an endeavour to reform the individual.

With the few hardened reckless characters that are to be found in every regiment,, reformation is a very hopeless task, but with young soldiers under two years' service, and with many under sentence for "desertion" and "absence without leave," (and these constitute the majority), such a course would have its effects.

I cannot, however, advocate a more lenient system of prison discipline for the punishment of offences in the army, because I consider it would fail in its object, and be in the end the least merciful that could be pursued. All officers of experience agree that the sentence on military offenders should be short, and if the punishment is to have a deterring influence on others, or on the individual himself, the discipline during periods which do not average more than three to four months must be of a severe character. During long periods, some relaxation in favour of instruction may, perhaps, be safely admitted, and at all times efforts to reform must be made, but I am satisfied of the necessity of preserving under all circumstances, the general prestige of a severe punishment, either by the *length of the period of confinement, or the stringency of the discipline.*

Under a system calculated to inspire a certain degree of dread in the minds of soldiers, it may fairly be anticipated that many would be deterred from committing a crime, the detection and punishment of which was *certain*, and during short periods, I should be inclined to place far more reliance on such a system in preventing the repetition of crime by the same individual, than on the effect of the better feelings and resolutions, which might result from a system in which persuasion and compulsory education were the leading features. The one would operate widely on every man in the service; the influence of the other, even under the most favourable circumstances, would be confined to the few individuals who might be subject to imprisonment, which during an entire year, including recommittals, do not exceed 5 per cent.

It would surely be considered a great mistake to tamper with punishment, if it be designed to have any effect at all on crime, for the sake of the *possible* effects of leniency on so very small a proportion. Punishment is calculated to have a wide-spread repressive effect, but the reformation of an individual is not of much avail for such a purpose; hence the importance of no undue sacrifice of the primary object of a sentence.

There appears, however, to be a tendency with some to take a very benevolent view both of crime and its consequences, and to hold exemplary punishments very cheap. Without entering into the various opinions that may prevail on such a subject, it seems reasonable to expect that, assuming simple imprisonment as the basis of discipline, it will be dreaded in proportion to the penal inflictions which may be given in addition, and cease to be so as they give place to the introduction of employment and instruction.

*Drunkenness.*

Though it is essential to adopt the most effective and vigorous measures for the repression of crime in the army, it is much to be lamented that there are so many causes which have a direct bearing on the increase of crime, some, at least, of which it would appear are susceptible of abatement. The wide-spread evils and extensive demoralization proceeding from drunkenness are very generally admitted, not only as regards the army, by every officer of experience, but by all who are in any way brought into contact with the poor or the criminal population.

I am induced to advert to this point from the very striking fact, that whilst in England the committals for drunkenness are in the ratio of about seventeen per cent., in Ireland they have been nearly three times and in Scotland sometimes twice as much. A practical illustration of the baneful influence of cheap spirits.

The following return will give the particulars for nine years, ending 1855 :—

| — | England. | | | Scotland. | | | Ireland. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Average Force. | No. of Committals for Drunkenness. | Per-centage. | Average Force. | No. of Committals for Drunkenness. | Per-centage. | Average Force. | No. of Committals for Drunkenness. | Per-centage. |
| 1847 . . | 38,398 | 307 | 0·79 | 3,686 | 57 | 1·54 | 24,985 | 339 | 1·35 |
| 1848 . . | 46,662 | 337 | 0·72 | 5,103 | 51 | 0·99 | 29,691 | 463 | 1·56 |
| 1849 . . | 38,307 | 307 | 0·80 | 5,013 | 40 | 0·79 | 22,577 | 448 | 1·98 |
| 1850 . . | 44,101 | 346 | 0·78 | 5,307 | 51 | 0·97 | 20,937 | 38 | 2·57 |
| 1851 . . | 42,318 | 387 | 0·91 | 3,913 | 51 | 1·30 | 23,737 | 441 | 1·85 |
| 1852 . . | 44,068 | 313 | 0·71 | 4,144 | 85 | 2·05 | 24,287 | 511 | 2·10 |
| 1853 . . | 46,849 | 279 | 0·59 | 4,451 | 45 | 1·01 | 23,176 | 454 | 1·95 |
| 1854 . . | 46,106 | 195 | 0·42 | 3,312 | 27 | 0·82 | 19,744 | 237 | 1·20 |
| 1855 . . | 70,298 | 250 | 0·35 | 8,270 | 32 | 0·38 | 40,149 | 311 | 0·77 |

# STATISTICS OF THE MILITARY PRISONS, for the Year 1855.

THE same Military Prisons were in operation in 1855 as in the previous year, but in March 1856 a temporary establishment was formed at Aldershot to provide for prisoners from the Camp, until the new prisons which are about to be erected there are completed.

The Military Prisons in operation in 1855 were as follows:—

ENGLAND .... Chatham, Gosport, Weedon, Devonport.
SCOTLAND .... Greenlaw (near Edinburgh).
IRELAND ..... Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Athlone.
ABROAD ..... Gibraltar, Quebec, Halifax (Nova Scotia), Bermuda, Vido (Ionian Islands), St. Elmo (Malta), Mauritius, and Barbados.

Making a total of 17 Military Prisons, of which 9 are in the United Kingdom, and 8 at different foreign stations, the whole being capable of accommodating about 1,250 prisoners.

The following are the principal statistics of the nine Military Prisons at home for the last seven years:—

| | 1849. | 1850. | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total number of prisoners admitted | 3,533 | 3,565 | 3,266 | 3,313* | 3,331 | 3,307 | 5,322 |
| Proportion per cent. of these admissions to the force | 5·36 | 5·06 | 4·66 | 4·57 | 4·47 | 4·78 | 4·48 |
| Daily average number of prisoners in confinement throughout the year | 750 | 659 | 550 | 542 | 570 | 504 | 562 |
| Proportion per cent. of the average numbers in confinement to the force | 1·13 | 0·93 | 0·78 | 0·74 | 0·76 | 0·73 | 0·47 |
| Average length of sentences | 99 days | 94 days | 95 days | 92 days | 92 days | 87 days | 77 days |
| Punishments inflicted by Visitors for serious offences, *viz.*— | | | | | | | |
| Corporal punishments | 11<br>550 lashes | 11<br>495 lashes | 6<br>300 lashes | 6<br>250 lashes | 6<br>238 lashes | 4<br>125 lashes | 5<br>175 lashes |
| Sentenced to solitary confinement | 15 | 15 | 10 | 8 | 17 | 10 | 6 |
| Sentenced to separate confinement | 33 | 20 | 6 | 9 | 9 | 4 | 9 |
| Sentenced to be put in irons | 2 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |

* In this number are not included 366 prisoners summarily awarded punishment by commanding officers, or sentenced for short periods, and committed to the Military Prison at Gosport, whilst the garrison cells at Portsmouth were being enlarged.

The following is a statement of the ages, services, country, and religion of the prisoners admitted in the years 1849 to 1855 inclusive :—

| Ages. | 1849. | 1850. | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Under 20 years | 575 | 386 | 317 | 350 | 621 | 962 | 1,577 |
| From 20 to 30 years | 2,446 | 2,585 | 2,415 | 2,344 | 2,189 | 1,937 | 3,185 |
| „ 30 to 40 years | 482 | 565 | 504 | 580 | 487 | 395 | 528 |
| Above 40 | 30 | 29 | 30 | 39 | 34 | 13 | 32 |
| | 3,533 | 3,565 | 3,266 | 3,313 | 3,331 | 3,307 | 5,322 |
| **Services.** | | | | | | | |
| 2 years and under | 986 | 761 | 531 | 651 | 986 | 1,580 | 3,902 |
| Under 7 years | 1,554 | 1,656 | 1,669 | 1,531 | 1,291 | 884 | 692 |
| From 7 to 14 years | 798 | 928 | 849 | 841 | 813 | 636 | 512 |
| „ 14 to 21 years | 171 | 209 | 200 | 260 | 211 | 193 | 188 |
| Above 21 years | 24 | 11 | 17 | 30 | 30 | 14 | 28 |
| | 3,533 | 3,565 | 3,266 | 3,313 | 3,331 | 3,307 | 5,322 |
| **Country.** | | | | | | | |
| English | 1,873 | 1,992 | 1,840 | 1,737 | 1,902 | 1,817 | 2,983 |
| Scotch | 405 | 316 | 313 | 476 | 424 | 342 | 557 |
| Irish | 1,255 | 1,257 | 1,113 | 1,100 | 1,005 | 1,148 | 1,742 |
| | 3,533 | 3,565 | 3,266 | 3,313 | 3,331 | 3,307 | *5,322 |
| **Religion.** | | | | | | | |
| Protestant | 2,121 | 2,260 | 2,063 | 1,977 | 1,937 | 2,028 | 3,263 |
| Presbyterian | 325 | 258 | 246 | 391 | 468 | 247 | 344 |
| Roman Catholic | 1,087 | 1,047 | 957 | 945 | 926 | 1,032 | 1,715 |
| | 3,533 | 3,565 | 3,266 | 3,313 | 3,331 | 3,307 | 5,322 |

* Including 40 foreigners.

The following table shows the comparative character of the prisoners for the last seven years :—

| Prison Character. | 1849. | 1850. | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Good | 3,132 | 3,156 | 3,010 | 3,031 | 3,088 | 3,072 | 5,020 |
| Indifferent | . . | 250 | 180 | 198 | 167 | 146 | 182 |
| Bad | 401 | 159 | 76 | 84 | 76 | 89 | 120 |
| | 3,533 | 3,565 | 3,266 | 3,313 | 3,331 | 3,307 | 5,322 |

The following is a statement of the number of punishments inflicted by Governors of Military Prisons in the United Kingdom for minor offences in the years 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, and 1855:—

| | 1850. | | 1851. | | 1852. | | 1853. | | 1854. | | 1855. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number of Prisoners in confinement during the Year. | Number of Punishments for minor Offences. | Number of Prisoners in confinement during the Year. | Number of Punishments for minor Offences. | Number of Prisoners in confinement during the Year. | Number of Punishments for minor Offences. | Number of Prisoners in confinement during the Year. | Number of Punishments for minor Offences. | Number of Prisoners in confinement during the Year. | Number of Punishments for minor Offences. | Number of Prisoners in confinement during the Year. | Number of Punishments for minor Offences. |
| Fort Clarence . | 1,025 | 979 | 944 | 573 | 926 | 658 | 962 | 556 | 1,131 | 629 | 1,592 | 303 |
| Gosport . . | 826 | 366 | 915 | 413 | 807 | 648 | 761 | 556 | 745 | 586 | 1,073 | 643 |
| Weedon . . | 559 | 208 | 375 | 67 | 371 | 65 | 426 | 64 | 338 | 28 | 715 | 39 |
| Devonport . | 207 | 196 | 207 | 265 | 175 | 346 | 228 | 298 | 197 | 202 | 204 | 183 |
| Greenlaw . . | 277 | 357 | 184 | 187 | 291 | 188 | 275 | 210 | 263 | 169 | 390 | 415 |
| Dublin . . | 589 | 136 | 454 | 97 | 517 | 173 | 518 | 134 | 515 | 143 | 831 | 325 |
| Cork . . . | 356 | 226 | 458 | 168 | 475 | 175 | 363 | 95 | 410 | 117 | 404 | 151 |
| Limerick . . | 258 | 132 | 223 | 191 | 53 | 18 | 183 | 141 | 172 | 128 | 339 | 217 |
| Athlone . . | 186 | 519 | 137 | 401 | 196 | 468 | 233 | 476 | 126 | 157 | 262 | 343 |
| | 4,283 | 3,119 | 3,897 | 2,362 | 3,811 | 2,739 | 3,949 | 2,530 | 3,897 | 2,159 | 5,810 | 2,619 |

The foregoing details exhibit a slight variation in the prison statistics of 1855 as compared with those of 1854; but such variation, viz., in the number of prisoners in confinement during the year, is to be accounted for by the large number of Militia Regiments that have been lately embodied for service. Notwithstanding so great an increase, the number of men punished for minor offences has, in comparison, been smaller than in any previous year, indicating an improvement in discipline, and, it may be hoped, a progressive tendency towards the moral improvement of the soldier. The average length of sentences was 99 days in 1849, and 87 in 1854, but it was reduced in 1855 to 77 days.

## *Crimes.*

The following statement shows the extent of crimes as compared with the force from which offenders have been committed in the years from 1847 to 1855:—

| — | Average Force. | Desertion. | | Absence without Leave. | | Drunkenness. | | Disgraceful Conduct. | | Other Crimes. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Nos. | Per-centage. | Nos. | Per-centage. | Nos. | Per-centage. | Nos. | Per-centage. | Nos. | Per-centage. |
| 1847 | 67,069 | 1,481 | 2·20 | 823 | 1·22 | 703 | 1·04 | 187 | 0·27 | 656 | 0·97 |
| 1848 | 81,456 | 1,431 | 1·75 | 822 | 1·00 | 851 | 1·04 | 200 | 0·24 | 705 | 0·86 |
| 1849 | 65,897 | 970 | 1·45 | 977 | 1·48 | 795 | 1·20 | 153 | 0·23 | 638 | 0·96 |
| 1850 | 70,345 | 792 | 1·14 | 1,155 | 1·64 | 935 | 1·32 | 116 | 0·16 | 567 | 0·80 |
| 1851 | 69,968 | 642 | 0·91 | 1,115 | 1·59 | 879 | 1·25 | 98 | 0·14 | 532 | 0·76 |
| 1852 | 72,499 | 745 | 1·02 | 1,010 | 1·39 | 909 | 1·25 | 136 | 0·18 | 513 | 0·70 |
| 1853 | 74,476 | 1,069 | 1·43 | 830 | 1·11 | 778 | 1·04 | 111 | 0·14 | 543 | 0·72 |
| 1854 | 69,162 | 1,384 | 2·00 | 813 | 1·18 | 459 | 0·66 | 158 | 0·23 | 460 | 0·66 |
| 1855 | 118,717 | 2,441 | 2·05 | 1,201 | 1·01 | 593 | 0·49 | 275 | 0·23 | 812 | 0·68 |

The above table shows that the tendency to the crime of desertion still continues on the increase, while that of drunkenness has again decreased, since 1854.

The increase in the crime of desertion may, as stated in my former report, be attributed to the immense number of recruits who entered the army during the last year, as well as to the temptation of re-enlisting in order to receive the double bounty.

## *Expenditure.*

The following is a statement of the expenditure on account of the Military Prisons during the last eight years:—

| Expenses incurred. | 1847. | 1848. | 1849. | 1850. | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| The total charge for pay and allowances of prison officers, and for the subsistence and washing of the prisoners, was | 13,741 | 14,801 | 14,106 | 13,291 | 12,451 | 12,598 | 13,488 | 14,359 | 15,933 |
| The full pay and beer money of prisoners in confinement not issued amounted to | 13,310 | 16,171 | 15,543 | 13,738 | 11,329 | 11,390 | 11,925 | 9,999 | 13,868 |

The increased expenditure may be entirely accounted for by the increased number of prisoners, as shown by the largely increased amount of unissued full-pay and beer money, which covers within about 2,000*l.*, the entire cost of the Military Prisons.

### *Garrison and Barrack Cells.*

In the foregoing details the offences which have led to imprisonment in the Military Prisons at home have been noticed; the following statement, which shows in addition the average occupation in the Garrison and Barrack Cells in Great Britain and Ireland for minor offences, will afford a more complete view of the state of Military Offences in the United Kingdom since 1847:—

| | Average Number of Prisoners in Military Prisons. | Proportion per cent. to the Force. | Average Number of Prisoners in Barrack Cells. | Proportion per cent. to the Force. | Total Average in Military Prisons and Barrack Cells. | Proportion per 1,000 to the Force. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1847 | 672 | 1·00 | 242 | 0·44 | 914 | 14·4 |
| 1848 | 784 | 0·96 | 334 | 0·50 | 1,118 | 14·6 |
| 1849 | 750 | 1·13 | 275 | 0·42 | 1,023 | 15·5 |
| 1850 | 659 | 0·93 | 277 | 0·45 | 936 | 13·8 |
| 1851 | 550 | 0·78 | 249 | 0·43 | 799 | 12·1 |
| 1852 | 542 | 0·74 | 347 | 0·59 | 889 | 13·3 |
| 1853 | 570 | 0·76 | 211 | 0·32 | 781 | 10·8 |
| 1854 | 504 | 0·73 | 193 | 0·34 | 697 | 10·7 |
| 1855 | 562 | 0·47 | 269 | 0·22 | 831 | 6·9 |

It should be observed that the average number of prisoners in Barrack Cells, as above, includes all, whether by sentence of Regimental Courts-martial or by the award of Commanding Officers. The progressive diminution of the number under sentence is therefore the more remarkable.

### *Corporal Punishment.*

The following table shows the numbers of convictions and of corporal punishments inflicted in 1845, the year previous to the establishment of Military Prisons, and the six last years:—

| — | Average Effectives of the Army. | Number of Convictions. | Proportion per cent. to Effectives. | Number of corporal Punishments. | Proportion per cent. to Effectives. | Numbers marked as Deserters. | Proportion per cent. to Effectives. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1845 . . | 125,252 | 9,954 | 7·94 | 652 | 0·52 | 786 | ·62 |
| 1850 . . | 125,119 | 9,640 | 7·7 | 247 | 0·19 | 605 | 0·48 |
| 1851 . . | 118,844 | 7,954 | 6·98 | 175 | 0·15 | 414 | 0·36 |
| 1852 . . | 117,643 | 8,312 | 7·06 | 282 | 0·23 | 427 | 0·36 |
| 1853 . . | 117,953 | 7,933 | 6·72 | 391 | 0·33 | 452 | 0·38 |
| 1854 . . | 135,884 | 6,651 | 4·82 | 435 | 0·32 | 396 | 0·29 |
| 1855 . . | 213,166 | 16,184 | 7·59 | 2,217 | 1·04 | 1,517 | 0·71 |

It is to be observed that there is a considerable increase of convictions during the last year, attributable, I think, mainly to the large numbers of recruits that have been enlisted in the United Kingdom, and the same reason may be urged in explanation of the increase in the number marked as deserters. I would, however, draw attention to the fact, that out of the 2,217 cases of corporal punishments 1,117 were inflicted in the Crimea. The state of war, which necessarily involves a return to corporal punishment, having caused the difference.

### *Military Prisons Abroad.*

The Reports received from the Military Prisons abroad are generally satisfactory as to the working of the system, but means do not exist in all of them of fully carrying into effect the rules and system, as rigidly maintained in the establishments at home ; some of them have not long been established, and in nearly all it has been necessary to receive prisoners committed by order of Commanding Officers as well as those with short sentences by Regimental Courts-martial.

For the above reasons no correct conclusions could be drawn from any statement of the statistics of Military Prisons abroad, and they have been therefore altogether omitted.

### *Re-committals.*

The following is a statement of the number of prisoners committed during the years 1849, 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, and 1855, who have at any time previously been committed to a Military Prison, showing their ages, services, &c. :—

| Ages. | 1849. | 1850. | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Under 20 years | 122 | 91 | 53 | 5 | 74 | 119 | 166 |
| From 20 to 30 years | 704 | 902 | 916 | 1,002 | 921 | 591 | 479 |
| „ 30 to 40 years | 174 | 266 | 221 | 351 | 296 | 187 | 157 |
| Above 40 years | 11 | | 18 | 21 | 21 | 9 | 6 |
| | 1,011 | 1,268 | 1,208 | 1,424 | 1,312 | 906 | 808 |
| **Country.** | | | | | | | |
| English | 639 | 788 | 686 | 754 | 707 | 477 | 488 |
| Scotch | 81 | 91 | 124 | 185 | 195 | 93 | 72 |
| Irish | 291 | 389 | 398 | 482 | 410 | 336 | 248 |
| | 1,011 | 1,268 | 1,208 | 1,424 | 312 | 906 | 808 |

| Services. | 1849. | 1850. | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Two years and under | 160 | 168 | 83 | 88 | 128 | 192 | 355 |
| Under 7 years | 502 | 629 | 641 | 680 | 571 | 288 | 172 |
| 7 to 14 years. | 290 | 381 | 386 | 475 | 471 | 314 | 207 |
| 14 to 21 years | 53 | 85 | 91 | 162 | 127 | 105 | 64 |
| Above 21 years | 6 | 5 | 7 | 19 | 15 | 7 | 10 |
| | 1,011 | 1,268 | 1,208 | 1,424 | 1,312 | 906 | 808 |
| **Religion** | | | | | | | |
| Protestant | 680 | 866 | 758 | 826 | 773 | 551 | 515 |
| Presbyterian | 70 | 70 | 97 | 161 | 172 | 65 | 46 |
| Roman Catholic | 261 | 332 | 353 | 437 | 367 | 290 | 247 |
| | 1,011 | 1,268 | 1,208 | 1,424 | 1,312 | 906 | 808 |

| | | 1849. | 1850. | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Crimes of which convicted at various times by the above re-committals | Desertion | 364 | 526 | 455 | 503 | 514 | 417 | 370 |
| | Absence without Leave | 752 | 1,123 | 1,409 | 1,478 | 1,381 | 783 | 572 |
| | Drunkenness | 559 | 741 | 956 | 1,336 | 1,370 | 741 | 512 |
| | Disgraceful Conduct | 61 | 64 | 56 | 66 | 70 | 38 | 50 |
| | Other Crimes | 716 | 820 | 558 | 604 | 623 | 595 | 333 |
| | | 2,452 | 3,274 | 3,434 | 3,987 | 3,958 | 2,574 | 1,837 |
| State of Instruction | Could not read | 293 | 407 | 280 | 335 | 269 | 248 | |
| | Could not write | 347 | 486 | 361 | 457 | 360 | 296 | |

In the above statement is included every soldier who having at any one time been committed to a Military Prison at home or abroad since 1845, when these establishments first came into operation, has again been committed to a Military Prison.

As in the statement showing the crimes for which men have been committed during the year, so in this it is shown that absence without leave and drunkenness are the two prevailing crimes leading to re-committals.

In order, however, to arrive at an accurate judgment of the increase or decrease of re-committals in each year, it is necessary to compare the number of such annual re-committals with the aggregate number of prisoners who have been committed to the Military Prisons since they were first established in 1845.

The following statement shows the number of men committed in 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, and 1855, who have at any time since 1845 been previously committed to any Military Prison; also the numbers recommitted to the same Military Prisons, and the total number of admissions since 1845:—

| | 1850. | | | 1851. | | | 1852. | | | 1853. | | | 1854. | | | 1855. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total Number of Re-committals. | Number re-committed to the same Prison. | Number of Prisoners admitted to 31 Dec. | Total Number of Re-committals. | Number re-committed to the same Prison. | Number of Prisoners admitted to 31 Dec. | Total Number of Re-committals. | Number re-committed to the same Prison. | Number of Prisoners admitted to 31 Dec. | Total Number of Re-committals. | Number re-committed to the same Prison. | Number of Prisoners admitted to 31 Dec. | Total Number of Re-committals. | Number re-committed to the same Prison. | Number of Prisoners admitted to 31 Dec. | Total Number of Re-committals. | Number re-committed to the same Prison. | Number of Prisoners admitted to 31 Dec. |
| Fort Clarence . . | 300 | 248 | 4,954 | 296 | 71 | 5,776 | 273 | 56 | 6,575 | 282 | 63 | 7,405 | 215 | 154 | 8,376 | 235 | 190 | 9,820 |
| Gosport . . . | 279 | 161 | 3,319 | 274 | 163 | 4,101 | 319 | 190 | 4,785 | 242 | 128 | 5,427 | 129 | 63 | 6,046 | 126 | 91 | 7,031 |
| Weedon . . . | 242 | 30 | 2,617 | 171 | 15 | 2,900 | 199 | 38 | 3,212 | 202 | 30 | 3,563 | 116 | 26 | 3,823 | 114 | 13 | 4,489 |
| Devonport . . | 37 | 10 | 1,018 | 53 | 27 | 1,193 | 79 | 26 | 1,344 | 71 | 28 | 1,552 | 58 | 16 | 1,714 | 30 | 16 | 1,899 |
| Greenlaw . . . | 53 | 40 | 1,137 | 51 | 34 | 1,277 | 111 | 32 | 1,536 | 86 | 18 | 1,753 | 62 | 23 | 1,968 | 46 | 16 | 2,307 |
| Dublin . . . | 156 | 14 | 3,269 | 131 | 17 | 3,647 | 170 | 36 | 4,128 | 149 | 21 | 4,565 | 130 | 21 | 5,037 | 130 | 32 | 5,816 |
| Cork . . . | 94 | 48 | 2,029 | 141 | 37 | 2,418 | 158 | 44 | 2,817 | 119 | 43 | 3,105 | 104 | 33 | 3,467 | 50 | 24 | 3,824 |
| Limerick . . . | 56 | 17 | 1,594 | 54 | 15 | 1,778 | 25 | 4 | 1,831 | 75 | 21 | 2,003 | 58 | 15 | 2,156 | 45 | 9 | 2,470 |
| Athlone . . . | 53 | 7 | 1,007 | 37 | 9 | 1,120 | 90 | 37 | 1,295 | 86 | 42 | 1,481 | 34 | 15 | 1,574 | 32 | 7 | 1,827 |
| | 1,270 | 575 | 20,944 | 1,208 | 388 | 24,210 | 1,424 | 463 | 27,523 | 1,312 | 394 | 30,854 | 906 | 361 | 34,161 | 808 | 398 | 39,483 |
| Average of total Re-committals to number of Prisoners . | per cent. 6·06 | . . | . . | per cent. 4·98 | . . | . . | per cent. 5·17 | . . | . . | per cent. 4·25 | . . | . . | per cent. 2·65 | . . | . . | per cent. 2·04 | . . | . . |
| Average of Re-committals to the same Prisons to the number of Prisoners . | . . | per cent. 2·74 | . . | . . | per cent. 1·60 | . . | . . | per cent. 1·68 | . . | . . | per cent. 1·27 | . . | . . | per cent. 1·28 | . . | . . | per cent. 1·00 | . . |
| Increase compared with the previous year . . . . . | . . | . . | . . | . . | . . | . . | 216 | 75 | . . | . . | . . | . . | . . | . . | . . | . . | 37 | . . |
| Decrease compared with the previous year . . . | . . | . . | . . | 62 | 187 | . . | . . | . . | . | 112 | 69 | . . | 406 | 33 | . . | 98 | . . | . . |

By this statement it appears that the number of re-committals has considerably decreased since 1850, although it might be expected that as the aggregate number of soldiers who have been once committed must year by year increase for a considerable period after the first formation of Military Prisons, so the number of re-committals would increase in a corresponding ratio. That this, however, has not been the case, is more decidedly shown by the decrease of the average of total re-committals compared with the total number of admissions into the Military Prisons since 1850, and is marked to a still greater extent by the decrease of the average of re-committals to the same prisons compared with the total number of prisoners admitted into each prison since 1850.

## *Health.*

AN ABSTRACT of the ANNUAL RETURNS of MEDICAL OFFICERS of MILITARY PRISONS at home.

| | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number of prisoners in confinement 1st January | 631 | 498 | 618 | 590 | 488 |
| Number of prisoners admitted during the year | 3,266 | 3,313 | 3,331 | 3,307 | 5,322 |
| | 3,897 | 3,811 | 3,949 | 3,897 | 5,810 |
| Discharged from Prison during the year | 3,399 | 3,193 | 3,359 | 3,409 | 5,002 |
| Remaining in confinement on 31st December | 498 | 618 | 590 | 509 | 808 |

| | 1848. | 1849. | 1850. | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number of prisoners in confinement during the year | 4,778 | 4,348 | 4,283 | 3,897 | 3,811 | 3,949 | 3,879 | 5,810 |
| Of these the following were treated for sickness:— | | | | | | | | |
| Remaining under treatment on 1st January | 46 | 43 | 22 | 37 | 16 | 18 | 21 | 19 |
| Treated in the Sick Ward of the Prison | 449 | 430 | 267 | 280 | 177 | 168 | 123 | 206 |
| Treated in the Prison, but not in the Sick Ward | 1,597 | 1,276 | 787 | 673 | 693 | 544 | 605 | 518 |
| Treated in Garrison or Regimental Hospital | 161 | 241 | 37 | 45 | 78 | 71 | 66 | 114 |
| | 2,253 | 1,990 | 1,113 | 1,035 | 964 | 801 | 815 | 857 |
| Of these were:— | | | | | | | | |
| Discharged cured | 2,180 | 1,917 | 1,039 | 988 | 908 | 748 | 777 | 790 |
| Transferred to Hospital at the expiration of sentence | 22 | 36 | 36 | 25 | 35 | 28 | 18 | 40 |
| Died in Garrison or Regimental Hospital | 8 | 13 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | .. | 4 |
| Died in Prison | .. | 2 | .. | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Remaining under treatment on 31st December | 43 | 22 | 37 | 17 | 18 | 22 | 19 | 22 |
| | 2,253 | 1,990 | 1,113 | 1,035 | 964 | 801 | 815 | 857 |
| The diseases were as follows:— | | | | | | | | |
| Fevers | 113 | 91 | 50 | 47 | 27 | 28 | 20 | 18 |
| Diseases of the head and nervous system | 44 | 26 | 16 | 6 | 16 | 9 | 8 | 10 |
| „ heart and lungs | 510 | 332 | 103 | 137 | 132 | 102 | 62 | 111 |
| „ stomach and bowels | 465 | 542 | 207 | 260 | 165 | 159 | 227 | 95 |
| Rheumatic affections and colds | 188 | 130 | 70 | 69 | 71 | 49 | 22 | 29 |
| Venereal diseases | 224 | 185 | 149 | 97 | 136 | 88 | 76 | 145 |
| Diseases of the skin | 100 | 123 | 77 | 34 | 21 | 18 | 20 | 74 |
| Ulcers and abscesses | 276 | 275 | 210 | 217 | 214 | 197 | 190 | 198 |
| Diseases of the eyes | 121 | 78 | 45 | 32 | 30 | 23 | 34 | 25 |
| Wounds and accidents | 48 | 44 | 51 | 38 | 34 | 50 | 56 | 51 |
| Other diseases | 164 | 164 | 135 | 98 | 118 | 78 | 100 | 101 |
| | 2,253 | 1,990 | 1,113 | 1,035 | 964 | 801 | 815 | 857 |
| The greatest number of prisoners in confinement at any one time was | 994 | 946 | 904 | 767 | 731 | 801 | 722 | 941 |
| The smallest number was | .. | .. | 413 | 362 | 374 | 369 | 307 | 396 |
| The daily average number was | 784 | 750 | 659 | 550 | 542 | 570 | 504 | 562 |
| The total number treated for sickness was | 2,253 | 1,990 | 1,113 | 1,035 | 964 | 801 | 815 | 857 |
| The average daily sick was | 28 | 34 | 26 | 26 | .. | 19 | 19 | 22 |
| The number of deaths was | 8 | 15 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 5 |

By the above abstract of the Medical Returns of the Military Prisons at home, it appears that the health of the prisoners has improved since 1854, as will be seen by the proportion of numbers treated for sickness to the total numbers in confinement in 1854, it was nearly 21 per cent. while in 1855 it decreased to about 15 per cent.

This result is at least a sufficient proof that the reduced scale of diet adopted in August 1850, and therefore in full operation throughout the years 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, and 1855, combined with the system of requiring the second and third class prisoners to sleep as if on guard, although it has increased the loss of weight among the prisoners as shown in the tables, has not had any injurious effect on their general health, and fully bears out the testimony to this effect by the medical officers in their detailed annual reports.

### *Comparison of the Health of the Prisoners with that of the Troops in Barracks.*

By Returns obtained from the Army Medical Department, showing the average strength of the Troops, the number of admissions into Hospital, and the number of deaths in the several Garrisons in which the Military Prisons at home are situated, during the years 1849, 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, and 1855, it appears that—

| | 1849. | 1850. | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Upon an average strength of . . | 17,685 | 17,696 | 18,296 | 20,388 | 22,838 | 18,122 | 20,689 |
| The admissions into Hospital were . | 22,528 | 19,702 | 18,370 | 20,790 | 19,892 | 19,728 | 19,019 |
| And the deaths were . . . . | 407 | 219 | 236 | 193 | 223 | 189 | 223 |
| This gives | per cent. | per cent. | per cent. | per cent. | per cent. | per cent. | per cent. |
| A ratio of admissions to the average strength of . . . | 127 | 111 | 100 | 102 | 87 | 108 | 92 |
| „ deaths „ „ . | 2·30 | 1·24 | 1·29 | 0·94 | 0·97 | 1·44 | 1·08 |
| „ deaths to admissions of . | 1·80 | 1·11 | 1·28 | 0·92 | 1·12 | 0·96 | 1·17 |
| The Statistics of the nine Military Prison at home show that— | | | | | | | |
| Upon an average strength of . . | 750 | 659 | 550 | 542 | 570 | 504 | 562 |
| The numbers treated for sickness were | 1,990 | 1,113 | 1,035 | 964 | 801 | 815 | 857 |
| And the deaths were . . . . | 15 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| This gives— | per cent. | per cent. | per cent. | per cent. | per cent. | per cent. | per cent. |
| A ratio of admissions to the average strength of | 265 | 168 | 188 | 177 | 140 | 162 | 152 |
| „ deaths „ „ . | 2 | 0·15 | 0·90 | 0·55 | 0·52 | 0·20 | 0·80 |
| „ deaths to admissions of . | 0·79 | 0·09 | 0·48 | 0·31 | 0·37 | 0·12 | 0·58 |

As stated in previous Reports, there will always appear to be a greater number of cases treated in the prisons in proportion to the strength than in the Army at large, in consequence of the greater number of men passing through a prison than through a like number of troops, and of the endeavour on the part of prisoners generally to escape a

portion of their punishment by coming forward for treatment upon slight grounds.

This is proved by the fact, that of the 857 prisoners treated in the Prisons at home during 1855 nearly two-thirds were not even placed in the sick ward; they were prisoners who came forward with slight ailments, for which the Medical Officer treated them whilst continuing the ordinary labour of the prison.

### *Diet in Military Prisons.*

The diet in use in the Military Prisons at home has been throughout the year 1855 the reduced scale adopted in August 1850, viz.—

| | Ordinary. | After 84 days. |
|---|---|---|
| Breakfast | 8 oz. of oatmeal | 10 oz. of oatmeal. |
| Dinner | 9 oz. of Indian meal | 12 oz. of Indian meal. |
| Supper | 8 oz. of bread | 8 oz. of bread. |

With a half pint of milk to each meal.

The foregoing remarks on the health of the prisoners will show the sufficiency of the diet. Its effect upon their weight will be seen by referring to the following Tables :—

TABLE showing the Number of Prisoners discharged who GAINED or LOST WEIGHT, from 1 to 27 lbs. each, during the years 1851 to 1855.

| Lbs. | Number of Men. | | | | | | | | | | Lbs. | Number of Men. | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Gained. | | | | | Lost. | | | | | | Gained. | | | | | Lost. | | | | |
| | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. | | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
| 1 | 90 | 58 | 60 | 109 | 198 | 175 | 136 | 134 | 174 | 328 | 16 | 230 | 180 | 156 | 312 | 532 | 2,573 | 2,366 | 2,534 | 2,630 | 4,018 |
| 2 | 57 | 41 | 36 | 78 | 135 | 185 | 133 | 154 | 215 | 469 | 17 | 1 | . | . | . | . | 65 | 95 | 95 | 65 | 35 |
| 3 | 29 | 25 | 13 | 44 | 72 | 220 | 162 | 188 | 230 | 434 | 18 | . | . | . | . | . | 64 | 64 | 8 | 41 | 25 |
| 4 | 21 | 17 | 11 | 21 | 45 | 225 | 193 | 206 | 243 | 474 | 19 | . | . | . | . | . | 56 | 55 | 61 | 44 | 16 |
| 5 | 10 | 10 | 13 | 16 | 40 | 239 | 216 | 200 | 248 | 453 | 20 | . | . | . | . | . | 51 | 53 | 4 | 38 | 14 |
| 6 | 9 | 6 | 10 | 11 | 16 | 239 | 227 | 251 | 249 | 400 | 21 | . | . | . | . | . | 35 | 47 | 4 | 22 | 8 |
| 7 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 236 | 191 | 256 | 235 | 311 | 22 | . | . | . | . | . | 27 | 33 | 3 | 9 | 8 |
| 8 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 10 | 4 | 230 | 218 | 195 | 212 | 282 | 23 | . | . | . | . | . | 24 | | 32 | 14 | 2 |
| 9 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 188 | 195 | 208 | 173 | 223 | 24 | . | . | . | . | . | 21 | 29 | 31 | 13 | 5 |
| 10 | 1 | 3 | . | 4 | 5 | 181 | 176 | 201 | 180 | 204 | 25 | . | . | . | . | . | 15 | 35 | 1 | 7 | 2 |
| 11 | 1 | 3 | . | 3 | 1 | 137 | 141 | 169 | 135 | 128 | 26 | . | . | . | . | . | 18 | 14 | 18 | 5 | 6 |
| 12 | 1 | 1 | . | 1 | 1 | 113 | 140 | 141 | 124 | 114 | 27 | . | . | . | . | . | 6 &upwards 39 | 68 | . | 18 | |
| 13 | . | 1 | 1 | 10 | . | 112 | 127 | 109 | 117 | 79 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | . | . | . | . | . | 93 | 111 | 122 | 95 | 82 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | 37 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 230 | 180 | 156 | 312 | 532 | 2,573 | 2,366 | 2,534 | 2,630 | 4,018 | | 231 | 180 | 156 | 312 | 532 | 2,994 | 2,884 | 3,048 | 2,906 | 4,139 |

TABLE showing the GAINS and LOSSES of WEIGHT of MEN discharged from MILITARY PRISONS at HOME, during the Year 1855, with the NUMBER of MEN treated for SICKNESS, and the NUMBER of DEATHS, &c.

| PRISONS. | Numbers Discharged. | GAINED. | | | LOSTED. | | | Neither Gained nor Lost. | Not Weighed. | Number treated for Sickness during the Year. | Per-centage of Sick to average Strength. | Deaths. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Number. | lbs. | Average. | Number. | lbs. | Average. | | | | | |
| | | | | lbs. oz. | | | lbs. oz. | | | | | |
| Fort Clarence | 1,394 | 92 | 234 | 2 5 | 1,233 | 8,241 | 6 11 | 51 | 18 | 262 | 0·40 | 1 |
| Gosport | 918 | 28 | 130 | 4 10 | 824 | 4,984 | 6 1 | 34 | 32 | 139 | 0·60 | 2 |
| Weedon | 596 | 51 | 138 | 2 11 | 475 | 2,620 | 5 8 | 69 | 1 | 56 | 0·14 | 1 |
| Devonport | 171 | 19 | 39 | 2 1 | 136 | 875 | 6 7 | 14 | 2 | 49 | 1·11 | 1 |
| Greenlaw | 330 | 31 | 103 | 3 5 | 281 | 1,871 | 6 11 | 17 | 1 | 42 | 0·22 | .. |
| Dublin | 751 | 195 | 411 | 2 2 | 532 | 2,503 | 4 11 | 24 | .. | 102 | 0·33 | .. |
| Cork | 353 | 66 | 196 | 3 0 | 271 | 1,857 | 6 14 | 15 | 1 | 100 | 0·62 | .. |
| Limerick | 269 | 30 | 89 | 3 0 | 206 | 1,446 | 7 0 | 26 | 7 | 83 | 0·61 | .. |
| Athlone | 220 | 21 | 47 | 2 4 | 179 | 954 | 5 5 | 20 | .. | 24 | 0·23 | .. |
| Gross Total | 5,002 | 533 | 1,387 | .. | 4,137 | 25,351 | .. | 270 | 62 | 857 | .. | 5 |
| General Average | .. | .. | .. | 2 10 | .. | .. | 6 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Numbers | .. | 533 | .. | .. | 4,137 | .. | .. | 270 | 62 | .. | .. | .. |
| Total Number | | | | | 5,002 | | | | | | | |

COMPARISON of GROSS TOTALS from 1849 to 1855.

| | GAIN. | | | LOST. | | | Neither Gained nor Lost. | Not Weighed. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. of Men. | lbs. | Average. | No. of Men. | lbs. | Average. | | |
| | | | lbs. oz. | | | lbs. oz. | | |
| 1849 | 858 | 2,812 | 3 4 | 2,398 | 12,216 | 5 1 | 374 | .. |
| 1850 | 504 | 1,587 | 3 2 | 2,890 | 19,630 | 6 12 | 226 | 32 |
| 1851 | 231 | 614 | 2 10 | 2,994 | 25,444 | 8 8 | 135 | 39 |
| 1852 | 180 | 575 | 3 3 | 2,884 | 27,194 | 9 7 | 87 | 42 |
| 1853 | 156 | 450 | 2 14 | 3,048 | 28,065 | 9 3 | 112 | 43 |
| 1854 | 304 | 862 | 2 13 | 2,952 | 22,299 | 7 9 | 164 | 42 |
| 1855 | 533 | 1,387 | 2 10 | 4,137 | 25,351 | 6 2 | 270 | 62 |

Notwithstanding the apparent effect of the punishment in causing a considerable average loss of weight, it is remarkable and satisfactory that the number treated for sickness during the year 1854 and 1855 is proportionately less than any year since 1848, especially as regards the latter year, for while in 1854 the average number of sick per cent. to the number of prisoners admitted was 24·6, that in 1855 was only 16·1.

| | 1849. | 1850. | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. | 1855. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total number of prisoners admitted . | 3,533 | 3,565 | 3,266 | 3,313 | 3,331 | 3,207 | 5,322 |
| „ treated for sickness . . | 1,990 | 1,113 | 1,035 | 964 | 801 | 815 | 857 |
| Average number of sick per cent. to the number of prisoners admitted | 56·3 | 31·2 | 31·6 | 29·0 | 24·0 | 24·6 | 16·1 |

## *Effects of the Discipline.*

Having adverted to the principle as well as the details of the discipline enforced in the Military Prisons, and brought forward such facts as will throw a light on the general operation of the system, I would observe that, so far as an opinion can be formed of the state of discipline in the army by the amount of punishment, the results exhibited in the return inserted at page 20 are encouraging and satisfactory.

The facts may be thus stated:—In 1843 the number of Soldiers imprisoned at any one time under sentence by Courts-martial in Civil Prisons, exclusive of those who might be in confinement by order of Commanding Officers, were in the ratio of 20 in a 1,000.

In the five years from 1847 to 1851, after the Military Prisons were brought into operation, the average number in confinement, including also those in Barrack cells, by order of Commanding Officers, amounted to little more than 14 in 1,000. During the following three years, from 1852 to 1854, the number was still further reduced to about 11 per 1,000. In 1855 it was only 7 per 1,000, but this falling off may be attributed to the bulk of the army being in the East.

The diminution in the number undergoing imprisonment for serious offences is the more deserving of attention, when

it is remembered that this mode of dealing with Military offenders has almost superseded corporal punishment.

By referring to the return at page 22, it will be seen that in the year 1845 the number of corporal punishments (in addition to the great proportion of men then under sentence of imprisonment in Civil Gaols) was in the ratio of 5·2 in a thousand, whereas in the five years from 1850 to 1854, whilst the number undergoing imprisonment had been diminished from 20 in 1,000 to 11 or 12, the number of corporal punishments had been also reduced to 2·5 per 1,000 men, or little more than one-half in both cases.

The encouragement held out to the good Soldier, the superior comforts to be found in the Barracks, and the greater care and attention to the instruction and moral welfare of the men, cannot fail to operate most favourably on discipline. There certainly exists at this time reasonable ground for hoping that a steady and energetic perseverance in measures of prevention on the one hand and repression on the other, will be calculated to raise the character of the service generally, and secure the object of making the British Soldier as deservedly respected in his quarters as he is in the field.

## *Conclusion.*

I cannot, my Lord, conclude without expressing the high sense I entertain of the zeal and efficiency of the Governors of the different prisons, and of their efforts to give effect to the spirit and letter of the regulations laid down for their guidance. It is with pleasure also that I can bear testimony to the exertions of the Chaplains and Medical Officers in their respective departments, and to the general good conduct and competency of the Warders and subordinate officers.

With such assistance and means for carrying into effect your wishes, the task of organizing and generally superintending the discipline of the Military Prisons has been comparatively easy. If, as I hope, their present state is such as meet your approval, and that of the general officers who are officially connected with them, it is rather due to the constant attention paid to the daily working of the system by the valuable body of officers acting as Visitors to each prison, and to the ability and discretion of the Governors, than to any assistance it has been in my power to afford,

however desirous I have ever been to maintain Military Imprisonment on the effective footing contemplated by Earl Cathcart's Committee.

I have the honour to be, my Lord,
Your Lordship's obedient humble servant,
J. JEBB, Colonel,
Inspector-General of Military Prisons.

# APPENDIX.

## APPENDIX A.

EXTRACT from a MEMORANDUM by FIELD-MARSHAL THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

December 21, 1842.

"I concur in the proposition of the Secretary-at-War, that a Committee should be appointed of which a Lieutenant-General should be President, to consider of, and enquire into, the expediency of adopting measures for providing an efficient punishment for soldiers convicted of Military Offences, that is, by confinement in separate Cells to be constructed in the several Barracks for the accommodation of Her Majesty's troops, or by confinement in Military Prisons to be constructed at different stations; the numbers which each of these prisons ought to contain; the establishments for the care and government of such Prisons, exclusive of garrison for the same, or military force; the extent of the Military force required for the garrison or guard of each; the mode of lodging such force, whether in the same, or a separate building.

"The nature of the punishment, besides the mere confinement of the Prisoner in Prison.

"Whether with or without hard labour? if the former, of what nature?

"Whether the confinement should be strictly solitary? and for lengthened periods of time? For what periods of time? Whether powers should be given to the Governor to order solitary confinement? or confinement with hard labour? in case of mutiny, or disobedience of orders? If not, by what means are obedience and submission, and good order and discipline, to be promptly and efficiently enforced? Enquiry should be made into the Rules and Regulations of the Military Prisons already existing. How far such Rules and Regulations have been successful in producing good order in such Prisons? What effect has been produced on the conduct of a Prisoner by the addition of hard labour to common confinement? and by the addition of hard labour to separate confinement?

"What are the means of giving air and exercise to the Prisoners in confinement, besides the hard labour?

"Can they communicate with each other during the period of exercise?

"The exact nature of the confinement in each Prison?

"Whether strictly solitary? or one man in each cell, kept separate from, and without communication with others only during

a certain number of hours of the day, as well as at night? Whether with or without hard labour?

"The effect upon the health of the Prisoners of the mode of confinement?

"The mode in which the food of the Prisoners has been distributed in each of these prisons?

"How the expense is provided for? Are the soldiers under stoppages while under confinement?

"What authority has the Governor of these several Prisons, to enable him to enforce prompt obedience; and to maintain discipline and subordination?

"Have these means been effectual?

"Returns of the numbers of men of each regiment or Battalion that have been confined in each Prison; stating the length of time; the nature of the confinement; whether with or without hard labour.

"Returns to be called for from the several Regiments, of the state of the defaulters for six months previous to the 1st of January 1841, and the 1st of June 1841; and from the same Regiments from the 1st of June 1841, to the end of December, 1842.

"These lists being compared with the Monthly Returns from the several Prisons, will show the effect upon the state of offences in the several Regiments of the system of confinement in Military Prisons.

"Another subject of enquiry is the separate cells, constructed or to be constructed in the several Barracks.

"What are to be the limits of the period of confinement? Under what regulations in respect of food? communication with Officers? Non-commissioned Officers or soldiers? How are these separate cells to be guarded? or otherwise superintended? so as to secure not only the detention of the Prisoners, but obedience to the Rules, which have for their object to render this description of imprisonment an object of terror, to prevent the commission of offences for the commission of which such imprisonment can be inflicted on the offender.

"Could not this Commission enquire into the means of depriving men who have been in confinement in these Prisons, and may have been registered accordingly, of some of the indulgences and advantages of the Service, and even extend that system to the defaulter books? The power of the Commanding Officer of the Regiment might deprive such men of the indulgence of leave of absence, and others of that description. But might not the period of confinement in these Prisons be fairly deducted from the period of a man's service, to give him a claim to additional pay for length of service, and pension upon retirement.

"To consider whether these Prisons should not at all times be liable to inspection by the local Magistrates, upon application to, and order by, the Commanding Officer on the spot; or the Governor or Keeper of the Prison?

"Which Magistrate or Visitor should be at liberty to minute on a paper kept for that purpose any observations which he might have to make.

"I have thus submitted for your consideration what has occurred to me on a perusal of the voluminous correspondence on these Military Prisons.

"It appears to me, that justice, fairness, and common humanity towards the good, the subordinate, and the orderly soldier, as well as a regard for the discipline, good order, and efficiency of the Army, should induce the Government to make every exertion to establish for the Army some system of real punishment of offences, which shall have the effect of deterring soldiers from the commission thereof.

"W."

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COPY of a LETTER from LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR HENRY HARDINGE, Secretary-at-War, to SIR JAMES GRAHAM, Secretary of State for the Home Department.

SIR, War Office, February 22, 1844.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, reporting the names of the Officers whom His Grace the Commander-in-Chief has concurred in nominating to be members of the Committee, to investigate the subject of Military Imprisonment, viz.:—

Lieut.-General EARL CATHCART, President of Committee.
Colonel T. GRANT, Commanding Grenadier Guards.
Colonel HENRY GODWIN, late Commanding 41st Regiment.
Major J. JEBB, R.E., Surveyor-General of Prisons.
Rev. D. NIHILL, late Governor of Millbank Penitentiary.

It is of importance that the earliest means should be adopted to relieve the pressure upon the Civil Gaols in Hampshire, and in Middlesex and Kent; and I submit, therefore, that the Committee should, at their first meeting, be requested to consider the expediency of fitting up South Sea Castle, and a fort at Chatham, as Military Prisons; the present solitary cells at each of these stations being used for special offenders.

For this purpose I would suggest, that they should visit South Sea Castle and Chatham, and examine carefully the localities, and should report upon the system to be adopted to make this experimental measure one of fair trial.

The changes which will require to be made in the Mutiny Act of the present year to meet the case, will render it necessary that the Committee should report upon this subject at the earliest possible period.

The Inspectors of Prisons in Great Britain, in their Second Report of 1837, stated the result of their inquiry, and reflected upon the imprisonment of Military offenders. This Report, and any other of the Reports of the Inspectors which may assist the Committee in the regulation of the diet, &c., of the Prisoners should be laid before them.

Having made these preliminary inquiries, and reported upon the expediency of fitting up South Sea Castle, and a fort at Chatham, including, if practicable, the time required for the conversion of these buildings into Prisons, the expense which will be thereby occasioned, and upon the changes required in the Mutiny Act, the Committee will understand that they are required to attempt to lay down a system which will adapt itself to the greater portion of the cases of soldiers sentenced to Military imprisonment, substituting sharp drill, breaking stones, or other work, for the usual modes in which sentences of hard labour are enforced in Civil Gaols, and in the superintending of which the Military Authorities may be able to dispense with all the difficult machinery which is applied in Civil Gaols to carry on the more complicated system entailed by separate confinement. It should also be borne in mind, that the object of Military punishment consists not only in the repression of crime, but in effecting that object in the shortest possible space of time.

The Committee, in this view of the question, ought to consider and report upon the nature of the confinement, the system of drill, the hard labour, the diet, the clothing, the bedding, &c., of the Prisoners; the powers to be given to the Officers in charge, to repress refractory and insubordinate conduct amongst the Prisoners whilst undergoing sentence; what description of punishment may be resorted to; the establishment of Officers and Non-commissioned Officers which will be necessary to enforce discipline; the general superintendence of Visiting Officers, the books and records of the daily state of the Prison to enable the Visiting Officers to form an accurate judgment of the system pursued. The Committee should also consider and lay down Rules for the guidance of each Officer and Non-commissioned Officer, and even the form of the Reports which ought to be periodically made to the Commander-in-Chief, to the Secretary-at-War, and to the Officer commanding the Regiment, on the termination of the soldier's confinement. These Reports will enable the several authorities to form a judgment of the efficiency of the punishment in Military Prisons, as compared with that now in force in Civil Gaols. The present system of giving the man a route to find his own way back to his Regiment being very objectionable, it will be desirable they should specify by what means he can be restored to his Regiment.

My letter of the 3rd February suggested that, in addition to your own instructions for the guidance of the Committee, various extracts from the correspondence which has already taken place, showing the opinions and sentiments of His Grace the Duke of Wellington, Lord Hill, and other persons, should be laid before the Committee.

With regard to the expense of the proposed establishments, I am of opinion, that exclusive of the expenditure for the buildings, the stoppage from the soldier's pay whilst in confinement will cover all the expense attending the system adverted to, if it should be found practicable.

I have, &c.

HENRY HARDINGE.

The Letter of Instructions to the Committee, from Secretary Sir James Graham, Bart., and its Enclosures.

My Lord. Whitehall, March 7, 1844.

I take the earliest opportunity, since the Committee for investigating the subject of Military Imprisonment has been formed, of communicating to your Lordship, on whom will devolve the duty of presiding at the meetings of that Committee, my views with respect to the manner in which it is desirable that their enquiries should be conducted, and the principal points to which their attention should be directed.

Numerous complaints have been made of the inconvenience which has resulted in certain Prisons in the neighbourhood of London, and of large Military Depôts, from the number of Prisoners under sentence of Courts Martial, whom of late it has been found necessary to commit to these Prisons.

It is of great importance that the earliest means should be adopted to relieve these Gaols from this pressure; and the question has arisen, whether it may not be for the advantage of the public, and for the improvement of the discipline of Her Majesty's Forces, that permanent Prisons should be established, reserved solely for the reception of soldiers convicted of Military offences; in which they may be subjected to a discipline, and to punishment, adapted to the repression of the offences of which they have been guilty, and to the duties which, upon their return to their Regiments, they will be expected to perform.

Your Lordship will perceive, therefore, that the inquiry to be instituted resolves itself into two branches.

1stly. What steps can be taken at the present moment, and at the least cost, to remedy the inconvenience to which I have adverted.

2ndly. Whether it may not be desirable to mature for the future a permanent scheme as regards the establishment of Prisons in which Military offenders alone shall be confined, and in which they may be subjected to the discipline and punishment best suited to their Military habits, and to the nature of their offences.

With respect to the first point, which is of pressing importance, I directed Major Jebb, who is a member of the Committee over which your Lordship presides, to report to me, whether there are not some forts, both at Portsmouth and at Chatham, which might, with little delay, and at a small expense, be rendered available for the temporary reception of such offenders.

I enclose, for the consideration of the Committee, copies of these Reports; and I think it desirable that the Committee should visit South Sea Castle, and Fort Clarence at Chatham, examine carefully the localities, and report upon the system to be adopted to make this experimental measure one of fair trial.

Your Lordship will understand, that although I am most desirous that no unnecessary delay should take place in preparing South Sea Castle and Fort Clarence for the temporary reception of soldiers

under sentence of Courts Martial, (should these forts upon inquiry appear to the Committee to be suitable for this purpose,) still, that before any outlay is incurred on this account, it is desirable that the discipline to be adopted in these Prisons should be definitively fixed.

It will be necessary that the Committee should, at the earliest possible period, report whether any, and what changes are required to be made in the Mutiny Act, with reference to this subject; and their deliberations on this point will be aided by Mr. Rogers, the Deputy Judge-Advocate, who has consented to serve on the Committee.

The Committee will take into their consideration, whether, without any change in the law, a system of Military punishment may not be laid down which will adapt itself to the greater portion of the cases of soldiers sentenced to confinement for Military offences; whether drill, or breaking stones, may not be substituted for the ordinary hard labour in Civil Gaols; and whether the difficult machinery which is applied in those Gaols to carry on the more complicated system of separate confinement may not be dispensed with.

The Committee therefore should consider and report upon the nature of the confinement, the system of drill, or hard labour, the diet, the clothing, the bedding of the Prisoners. They should also take into their consideration the powers to be given to the Officers in charge, to repress refractory and insubordinate conduct amongst the Prisoners, whilst undergoing their sentences; they should consider what description of punishment may be resorted to, and what establishment of Officers and Non-commissioned Officers will be necessary to enforce discipline and punishment in these Prisons: they should further take into their consideration the subject of the general superintendence of these Prisons by Visiting Officers; and they should report upon the nature of the books and records of the daily state of the Prisons, which should be kept for the purpose of enabling the Visiting Officers to form an accurate judgment of the system pursued there; they should further report who, in the opinion of the Committee, should be the Visiting Officers of these Prisons; they should frame Rules for the guidance of each Officer and Non-commissioned Officer, and state the forms of the Reports which, in their opinion, ought to be made periodically to the Secretary-at-War, the Commander-in-Chief, and to the Officer commanding the Regiment, on the termination of the soldier's confinement; they should consider by what means it will be most advisable to cause the men to be restored to their Corps, objections being taken to the present system of giving them routes to find their own way back to their Regiments. It will be for the consideration of the Committee, whether, subsequently to the soldier's return to his duty, such a report of his conduct may not be forwarded to the proper authorities, as will enable them to form a judgment of the efficiency of the punishment in Military Prisons, as compared with that now in force in Civil Gaols.

The Committee will not omit, when investigating this subject, to turn their attention to the cells which have lately been erected for the confinement of soldiers convicted of insubordination, or of other Military offences, at some of the Military Stations in England

It will be desirable that the Committee should examine the Reports of the Inspectors of Prisons, and particularly their Report of 1837, in which is stated the result of their enquiry and reflection upon the imprisonment of Military offenders. They will take into consideration, whether, exclusive of the ordinary expenditure for the buildings, the stoppage from the soldier's pay, whilst in confinement, will not cover all the expense attending the proposed system, if it should be found practicable. The Committee will call before them, and examine, such persons as, from their experience, either in the discipline of the Army, or of prison regulations, may in the opinion of the Committee, be likely to afford them valuable information on the subject of their enquiry.

It may be desirable, that Colonel Mansel, the Assistant Adjutant-General at Limerick, who has taken great interest in the Military Prison at that place, should be examined. I am prepared, if the Committee desire it, to communicate with the proper authorities, with a view to Colonel Mansel's coming to London for the purpose of being so examined.

I think it of great importance that the Committee should be made aware of the views entertained by Field Marshal His Grace the Duke of Wellington, on the general question which they are about to investigate ; and I therefore forward to your Lordship, for the purpose of being laid before the Committee, extracts of a letter, addressed by His Grace to the Secretary-at-War, on this subject.

I further beg to inform your Lordship, that I shall be ready to afford to your Lordship and to the Committee, any assistance in my power to aid the Committee in the prosecution of the important inquiry which has been intrusted to them.

I have, &c.

J. R. G. GRAHAM.

*Lieut.-General the Earl Cathcart,*
*President of the Committee on the*
*question of providing Military Prisons.*

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EXTRACT from a MINUTE addressed by LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR HENRY HARDINGE to SECRETARY SIR JAMES GRAHAM.

Whitehall Gardens, May 15, 1844.

I HAVE read the Report of the Committee on Military Prisons with much interest, and you will concur with me, that the members have ably fulfilled the duty imposed by your instructions.

They have judiciously restricted their recommendation of large District Prisons to three for the whole of England, converting some useless Military buildings into permanent Military Prisons, at

the points most desirable on the score of discipline, and at which, in England, we have the largest number of men in Garrisons, viz., Chatham, Portsmouth, and Weedon.

Compare this simple and practical result with the arrangements previously proposed, and you will find a very large diminution of expense, a smaller responsibility of superintendence, and less probability of abuse; whilst the attention of the proper authorities being confined to these three great prisons in England, will be able to exercise a proper control, not omitting, in the various Barracks where the minor punishments are to be carried on under the Regimental Commanding Officers, to cause these to be inspected by the General Officers, the Staff, and the permanent Inspector of Military Prisons.

This Inspector of Prisons should be a Military Officer, permanently employed in vigilantly carrying the system into effect, and of the rank of a Field Officer.

The situation of large District Prisons in Ireland still remains to be decided; the number will be probably three or four.

The cells in Barracks for Regimental purposes of confinement, may be simplified, I should say, by improving the present blackholes for short imprisonments, and constructing others when required on an improved principle, for longer periods of confinement.

If a Provost-Serjeant not belonging to the Regiment were attached to each Barrack, he would have a succession of Commanding Officers to obey and please, which I am sure would not answer; the Regimental Serjeant would answer better.

In these Barracks, with the few exceptions at the large Stations, I am persuaded the Provost in charge of the Prisoners of a Regiment, should be a Serjeant of the Regiment, and not a Pensioner, paying the Serjeant a small stipend in addition to his Serjeant's pay; and this Non-commissioned officer would gradually become the Serjeant for the police and discipline of the Regiment.

The stoppage from the pay of the prisoners, will, in most cases, repay the whole of the expense. And if the establishments for the large Prisons can be obtained from the Chelsea Pensioners, so as to avoid making any demand upon the effective Army, except as a guard at each of three great Stations, another very important object will be obtained, that of avoiding to employ good soldiers in guarding and superintending bad ones, reducing the strength of the Army, and making the good men do additional duty for the bad.

At any rate, the system will be much more effective and Military, than that of Civil imprisonment in Gaols, which it is intended to supersede, and I trust it will be more successful.

I concur in the enlargement of the powers of the Commanding Officers of Regiments, and in the classification of Prisoners, their diet, and other details, which I need not recapitulate. In short, if the plan proposed be diligently and firmly carried into effect, it will answer admirably. But on all these points my successor will refer, as I should have done, to the Duke of Wellington; and with his master

mind to decide upon the leading principles, I have no doubt that the proposed system will be a great improvement upon that which it will supersede.

H. Hardinge, Lieut.-General.

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Letter from Secretary Sir James Graham to Earl Cathcart, President of the Committee.

My Lord, Whitehall, July 11, 1844.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 27th ultimo.

I beg to express my thanks to the Members of the Committee on Military Prisons, for the efficient manner in which they have conducted the investigation which was confided to them. I propose that the Committee should now adjourn their meeting, and be called together again either in the autumn or next spring.

I have, &c.

J. R. G. Graham.

*Lieut.-General the Earl Cathcart,*
*&c. &c. &c.*

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## APPENDIX B.

### Rules and Instructions.

1st. With reference to the nature and stringency of the discipline, the following is the daily routine established in the regulations for Military Prisons :—

Rule 168.—On week-days the prisoners shall rise at six o'clock A.M., and their work through the day, if under sentence of hard labour, shall be regulated by the order of the Governor, with due consideration of light and weather, as regards the time of open air and in-door employment, and shall consist of drill, gun, or shot exercise, carrying, piling, and cleaning shot, breaking stones, cleaning the yards, passages, privies, and other parts of the premises, picking oakum, and such other modes of employment as may from time to time be introduced under the sanction of the visitors. Unless under special authority of the Secretary-at-War, the prisoners of the first and second classes shall be engaged in the foregoing manner from six o'clock A.M. to six o'clock P.M., and those of the third class from six o'clock A.M. to eight o'clock P.M., with the exception of regular times for parades, chapel, meals, and rest, &c.

The following shall be the usual distribution of time, viz. :—

| | H. | M. | | H. | M. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| From | 6 | 0 | to | 6 | 30 | The prisoners shall clean the rooms or cells, turn up bedding and beds, spread out bed clothes to be aired, wash, shave, and do whatever is necessary for cleanliness of person. |
| „ | 6 | 30 | to | 8 | 0 | Empty slops and general fatigue duty, or pick oakum, attend drill, &c. |
| „ | 8 | 0 | to | 8 | 45 | Breakfast, make up beds, and get ready for parade. |
| „ | 8 | 45 | to | 9 | 15 | Parade for chapel, and take walking exercise. |
| „ | 9 | 15 | to | 9 | 45 | Attend chapel. |
| „ | 9 | 45 | to | 11 | 15 | Attend general parade, Governor's inspection, drill, and medical inspection. |
| „ | 11 | 15 | to | 12 | 45 | Perform shot exercise. |
| „ | 12 | 45 | to | 1 | 0 | Parade for dinner and take walking exercise. |
| „ | 1 | 0 | to | 2 | 0 | Dine, clean, and mend clothes. |
| „ | 2 | 0 | to | 2 | 15 | Walking exercise. |
| „ | 2 | 15 | to | 3 | 45 | Perform shot exercise. |
| „ | 2 | 45 | to | 6 | 0 | Pick oakum, break stones, attend drill, or perform general fatigue duty. |
| | | | at | 6 | 0 | All prisoners shall go to supper. |

When deemed expedient, knapsack drill may be substituted for shot exercise.

The hours for shot exercise may be temporarily altered, in case of any exigency arising from rain or heat rendering such change necessary, but the Governor should notice the alteration in his Journal.

*Note.*—At those periods when prisoners are paraded for "walking exercise" an opportunity will be afforded them of falling out to go to the privy, &c.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| From | 6 | 15 | to | 7 | 45 | The first and second class shall usually be employed in reading, writing, and in receiving school instruction, under the general superintendence of the chaplain, and the third class in picking oakum, or in such other work, of a similar nature, as the Visitors shall determine. |

*Note.*—When it is dark before six o'clock, the first class may, at the discretion of the Governor, be exempted from hard labour, and be permitted to read or receive instruction from the time of its becoming dark till six o'clock

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| From | 7 | 45 | to | 8 | 0 | The prisoners shall make their beds. |
| | | | and at | 8 | 0 | Every prisoner shall go to bed. |

On Sundays the prisoners shall be dressed at half-past six o'clock, between the 1st of March and the 30th of September; and at seven o'clock between the 1st of October and the last day of February. The cleaning will be confined to what is strictly necessary for the order of the prison. The prisoners shall attend Divine Service twice, take such exercise in the open air as may be ordered by the

Governor or Surgeon, and read or receive instruction under the superintendence of the Chaplain, Warder, Schoolmaster, Chief Warder, or Warders. Christmas Day and Good Friday, shall in these respects, also be observed as Sundays.

### Rules for the Governors.

Rule 59. He shall exercise his authority with firmness, temper, and humanity, abstain from all irritating language, and not strike a Prisoner. He shall enforce similar conduct on the subordinate officers. He shall always bear in mind that the chief object of establishing a prison exclusively for military offenders is to maintain discipline in the army, and to repress the repetition of military offences; and as punishment alone can hardly be expected to produce this effect, he shall consider it his duty to endeavour to instil soldier-like and moral principles into the mind of every prisoner, letting him see that he takes an interest in his welfare, and by his good advice, and kindly admonition, endeavouring to convince him of his error, and to encourage him to aim at future good conduct, and the attainment of a respectable character in the service; and he shall specially report to the Visitors, when the conduct or demeanour of any prisoner has been particularly marked by a soldier-like submission to the discipline of the prison and attention to the duties required of him.

The Rules applying to the Chaplain on this head are as follows:—

Rule 91. He shall endeavour by all the means in his power, and particularly by encouraging their confidence, to obtain an intimate knowledge of the character and disposition of all the prisoners; for which purpose he shall occasionally see and converse with every prisoner in private, and whenever he shall wish to instruct or examine a class of prisoners he shall apply to the Governor.

He is expected to allot a considerable portion of his time to visiting, admonishing, and instructing the prisoners in their cells and rooms, selecting such times for doing so as will not interfere with the established routine of discipline.

Rule 92. He shall, if practicable, establish an evening school, and frequently attend and examine the prisoners as to their progress, and give directions according to their instruction.

### Classification.

For the purpose of affording a clearer notion of their views as respects both classification and hard labour, the Committee beg to submit the following extracts from the Rules which they propose upon those subjects:—

"The prisoners (except during the period or periods of their solitary confinement) shall be divided into three classes, to be called the First, Second, and Third, Classes respectively. Upon the reception of a Prisoner, the Governor will maturely weigh the circum-

stances of the crime of which he has been convicted; the extracts from the Court-martial Book of any previous convictions; the record of his character, as indicated by extracts from the Defaulter's Book, together with his age and any other points that will assist his judgment in determining the Class in which the prisoner ought to be placed.

"The Governor will bear in mind, that the object of classification is, first, to protect the young soldier and the less hardened offender from the mischievous consequences of association with worse characters; and secondly, to hold out an inducement to all the prisoners to behave well in Prison, by the hope of reward and the fear of punishment, in being either promoted to a higher Class, or degraded to a lower one. In applying this principle, the worst characters, such as have been convicted of 'disgraceful conduct,' or who may appear to be confirmed drunkards, or incorrigible and hardened offenders, and prisoners who have ever been subject to corporal punishment, would obviously be placed, on reception, in the Third Class.

"Those prisoners who do not come under this description, and of whom better hopes may be formed, will, as an invariable rule, be placed on reception in the *Second Class:* but the Governor will exercise his discretion in making an early selection for promotion to the *First Class,* of any prisoner who, from the nature of his offence and previous good character, appears deserving of such distinction, or who, from his youth or other circumstances, requires to be protected from the bad effects of associating with worse characters.

"The *First Class* shall be composed of those prisoners, who, from their quiet orderly habits and general good conduct under punishment, may appear deserving of being promoted from the *Second Class,* after some experience has been gained of their characters.

"In like manner, prisoners in the Third Class will, by good conduct, be eligible for promotion to the Second Class.

'Prisoners in either the First or Second Classes will also be liable to be removed to a lower Class for misconduct.

"The Classes will be distinguished by badges marked as First, Second, or Third Class, attached to some conspicuous part of the prison dress."

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## APPENDIX C.

### Extracts from the Reports of Governors of Military Prisons.

#### Fort Clarence.—*Captain Manners.*

*Conduct of Prisoners.*—"Under this head I am happy to be able to render a highly favourable report, as, considering the large number of admissions, and the crowded state of the prison during part of the year, also the youth and inexperience of a large pro-

portion, their quiet, orderly behaviour has been most praiseworthy. What with militia, Germans, Swiss, as well as recruits, (many of the roughest stamp,) the prison at one time presented a most heterogeneous assemblage; however, by firmness coupled with kind treatment, and good advice, the most perfect discipline was preserved, and even minor offences rarely committed. No corporal punishment had to be resorted to, neither was the aid of a visitor required throughout the year, beyond his legitimate tour of duty; besides which I can with truth say, gross insubordination was unknown."

*Discipline.*—"The law has been most faithfully upheld in this respect, and on no single occasion throughout the year has the shot exercise been remitted. Some few cases have occurred of mere boys being admitted, whom it was requisite to exempt from heavy shot, but to them 24 lb. was fully as severe as 32 lb. to others; this will no doubt be noticed in the medical officer's report. The rule of silence was strictly maintained, and, although in a large establishment like this, evasion may occasionally occur, such instances are rare, and the prisoners, after being properly cautioned, conform in the most orderly and creditable manner."

*Classification.*—"Necessity obliged me in the most crowded times, to promote men before their turn; these cases were however not frequent, and I do not think they in any degree detracted from the advantages of the system. As a general rule, however, this has been strictly attended to, and has continued to work extremely well."

*Privation of Bed.*—"Bad soldiers are almost always lazy, indolent men, who value their bed and pipe beyond all earthly gratifications, and the sudden withdrawal of these is no doubt a rigorous punishment; judging by their countenances, as well as frequent endeavours to evade this punishment, I should think no part of the system pinches them more severely, and I am extremely partial to the arrangement myself, as, while it is essentially penal, it does not degrade, but only places the prisoners on a footing with their comrades on military duty."

*Diet and Health.*—"Under this head it seems scarcely necessary for me to do more than echo the remarks made on former occasions. Confirmed drunkards, and many of the deserters, improve on the diet; others lose flesh to a considerable extent, but not to the injury of their constitutions, and the new system of increasing the diet after 56 days has, I think, been extremely advantageous. Of 1394 discharges, except 25 from garrison hospital, all have been reported fit for duty; and the general health throughout the year has been excellent."

*The School.*—"Although I do not by any means enter into all points of school statistics, particularly in an establishment where many disadvantages have to be contended against, I think considerable benefit is derived from this branch of the system. The

schoolmaster continues to perform his duties satisfactorily, but he has rough materials to deal with, and not unfrequently meets with men whom it is absolutely impossible to teach; however, the greater proportion are extremely tractable, and by enforcing the most perfect discipline, oral as well as catechetical, instruction is carried on with evident advantage.

"The singing is still continued at Divine Service on Sundays, and, although subject to the disadvantage of frequent changes, the prisoners perform their part admirably.

"The school established every Sunday evening, exclusively for reading and explaining the Scriptures, continues to work most satisfactorily, and I feel confident no part of the system is of more real utility to the prisoners."

*Recommittals.*—"Under this head there appears an increase of 20 over the year 1854, but when compared with the number of admissions the actual proportion is smaller. There are so many conflicting circumstances bearing upon this subject, that it is difficult for me to enter into any minute explanation regarding it.—We must now make allowances for the immense increase of enlistments, which of course prevent the possibility of being very particular on any except physical points. Many of these men think nothing of the crime of desertion; and it is difficult to prevent them from spreading such ideas among young and inexperienced recruits of a better stamp: such characters soon swell our list of recommitals, and although we may punish, advise, and punish again, little will be gained; and they must eventually be removed from the service.

"Fear of God, in my humble opinion, has far more to do with the prevention of desertion than fear of man; and had the young soldiers I have described above, been even in a trifling degree attended to in earlier life, they must have imbibed principles above violating with such manifest indifference the sacred obligations of an oath."

*General Remarks.*—"Experience has afforded convincing proofs that punishment alone will never subdue the vicious propensities of any class of men; and I can say with truth, religious and moral advice, offered in a kind and feeling manner, appears to subdue even the most apparently hardened soldier; and, when under the power of the law, such characters seem always ready to listen to good counsel. A fine field is therefore open for the exertions of a zealous clergyman,—one possessed of sound judgment; and it would, I think, be extremely advantageous if no other public occupation was assigned to the chaplain of this large and responsible establishment.

"Very long sentences, as I have also mentioned on former occasions, are a serious drawback to the general system in these establishments, as men, be their tempers violent or otherwise, will conduct themselves for a certain time well; but afterwards they become callous or indifferent, and unless urged on by extra punishment, or encouraged by undue indulgence, become a nuisance to all around them.

"I have already stated in the preceding pages, that no corporal punishment has taken place during the year for prison offences; but we have had two men subjected to the lash, as a commuted punishment under the provisions of the 27th clause of the Mutiny Act. I cannot help regretting the existence of this clause, as, in consequence of the distance of Fort Clarence from the barracks, the passing and repassing of the drum-major, and drummers, from and to their quarters causes quite a parade through Chatham and Rochester, thus giving a publicity to the duty which I think very prejudicial; as it is impossible to convince the public a prisoner has not, each time, been punished for a prison offence, besides which this description of punishment being as much for example to others as to deter the individual himself from a repetition of crime, no possible effect can be produced by flogging a man in one of our cell yards for an offence committed when doing duty with his corps.

"An unusual number of prisoners were discharged during the year prior to the expiration of their sentences; this was not alone for good conduct in the prison, but as an arrangement sanctioned by your Lordship to reduce the pressure; and evade as long as possible the moral effect of having to refuse admission.

"I have always looked upon soldiers as a stamp of men deserving the highest consideration, and bestowed the utmost of my exertions in endeavouring to improve morally those committed to my charge; being quite convinced the best soldiers for peace or war are men of fixed honourable principles, based upon a conviction of the necessity for obedience both to the laws of God and man.

"In conclusion, I sincerely trust the duties of this establishment have been carried on in a manner to merit your Lordship's approval."

WEEDON.—*Captain Boyle.*

*Effect of Imprisonment on the Weights.*—"The average loss of weight is again in a diminished ratio, viz., 5 lbs. 8 oz. against 7 lbs. 11 oz. in 1854. The great care and attention of the medical officer and the regularity of the promotions, as I observed last year, conduce to this diminution; but it is probably chiefly owing this year to the order for the adoption of the increased scale of diet (when recommended by the medical officer) at the end of 56, in lieu of 84 days; a very salutary alteration under existing circumstances, many men either very young or unusually old having been admitted."

*Addition to the Dietary.*—"With regard to the recommendations of the medical officer that a pint of coffee should be added to the diet, I am of opinion that the present scale is the very lowest practicable. The men very rarely complain, however; they look upon the short allowance as a part of their punishment, and bear it accordingly; but the question arises with regard to their efficiency as soldiers, on their return to their regiments. I am of opinion that they go out physically deteriorated. I have held this opinion ever since my appointment, but should not have given expression

thereto without the support of voluntary medical testimony. Dr. Fraser is so strong on the point that I would suggest a trial of the coffee, either by giving a pint at supper in place of the milk, or adding a half pint to the half pint of milk issued.

"You will observe three cases in which men have been respectively recommitted 14, 16, and 21 times. It would be desirable that the facilities which appear to exist for getting rid of such soldiers should be more readily made use of. I agree in the opinion that they should be marked (after a certain number of convictions) to prevent re-enlistment, and then discharged."

GOSPORT.—*Captain Curtin.*

*Classification.*—"I attribute the obedience and attention to labour and discipline shown by the generality of the prisoners to the system of classification. Every year of service in the department confirms more and more my opinion of the value of it as an inducement to good conduct. Promotion to the higher classes is anxiously looked for by the prisoners, and this induces a careful attention and obedience to rules lest they should lose this advantage when the opportunity for its attainment offers; and the same watchfulness and care becomes needful when obtained, lest it should be lost by misconduct."

*School.*—"There has been an average attendance in the school of about 71 of the first and second classes, and this advantage is, I think, much appreciated by the generality of the prisoners, for particulars of which I would refer to the chaplain's quarterly reports. I have no doubt that much good is done, not only in the amount of information acquired, but as inducing a desire for instruction amongst those who previously were altogether without education. Some who do not even know the alphabet on entering the school are able to read on leaving it."

*Health.*—"The annual report of the medical officer will, of course, show the general state of health of the prisoners; and I will merely say that they have been generally exempt from any disease of a serious or infectious character, and this is the more surprising from the unsatisfactory state of the neighbourhood with regard to drainage, &c., in which there has been no improvement since my last annual report."

*Labour and Employment.*—"The labour and employment of the prisoners have been carried out according to the rules. Machinery drill, knapsack drill, shot exercise, stone breaking, and oakum picking; the latter always done in the cells, and a certain quantity exacted. In the winter season the cell doors are opened to admit light from the galleries (lighted with gas), the prisoner sitting in the corner of his cell at work, and the wardens on duty in front of the cell doors."

DUBLIN.—*Captain Lyon.*

"The discipline has been enforced with the utmost rigour, more especially as I found men returned to the prison often very soon

after their release; some of the cavalry having told me that the work they had to do with their regiments, on account of the large number of young horses, being far harder than the prison labour; and some of the men from the Curragh, having also found the prison more comfortable than the camp, returned a second time. On these men I have been doubly severe, keeping them at the hardest work during the whole of their period of imprisonment, and I am happy to say they have not, in scarcely a single instance, returned a third time.

"It will appear, *primâ facie*, that the crime of drunkenness has decreased, but I regret to say such is not the case, as nearly all the cases of desertion and absence have been caused by drink, the soldier having, while drunk, lost part of his clothing, and then been afraid to return to his corps; has been arrested, and tried as a deserter, or for absence without leave.

"With regard to the behaviour of the prisoners, it has been decidedly good. I have twice had occasion to apply for a corporal punishment, and both times I have been borne out in so doing, in the complete change of the prisoner's character, neither of them having ever been brought up for trivial offences since, and having gone back to their regiments, I firmly believe, reformed characters. The conduct of the men of the militia has been singularly good, more especially when it is considered that many of these men have, I may say, been taken from the worst class of society; yet I have found them all obedient, tractable, and well-behaved; in fact, far more easily managed than the line. Nor are the admissions from the militia near so large as was to be expected from their numbers, and since the regiment has been taken away from its native place, and removed to a distant station, the number of court-martials in that regiment has decreased to a marked extent.

"It is almost impossible to particularize the sort of punishment for offences committed within the prison the most efficacious; some men of a lazy disposition preferring the dark cell, even on the bread and water diet, to the hard labour of shot drill; whereas others would sooner undergo any amount of hard labour than be left for even an hour in the dark."

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CORK.—*Captain Barnham.*

"MY LORD, Military Prison, Cork, 23rd January 1856.

"IN transmitting my report of the transactions of this prison for the past year 1855, it affords me much gratification to be able to state, in general terms, that everything connected with the establishment has been carried out in a satisfactory manner, and the 'Statistical Record' which accompanies this report can be favourably contrasted with that of any preceding year."

*Admissions.*

| Date. | No. of Prisoners admitted. | Average No. of Force sending Prisoners to the Prison. | Proportion per cent. of Prisoners to strength. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1854 | 362 | 4,752 | 7·617 |
| 1855 | 358 | 6,125 | 5·844 |

"This table exhibits a very satisfactory result as to the number of prisoners admitted."

*Prison Offences.*

| Date. | No. of Prisoners in Confinement. | No. of Punishments Inflicted. |
|---|---|---|
| 1854 | 410 | 117 |
| 1855 | 405 | 157 |

"This table shows an increase in the actual number of punishments inflicted during the past year as compared with 1854, but if we analyze the nature of the offences for which the punishments were awarded, it will be found to be in favour of the former year.

"In 1854, two instances of corporal punishment took place. In the past year, I am happy to say, no such punishment was either awarded or inflicted, and it was only found necessary to call upon a visitor to investigate charges and award punishment in three instances during the year, and that whilst I was on leave of absence, which the chief warder very properly considered it advisable to do. No punishment during the past year exceeded 48 hours confinement on bread and water; the offences were generally of a light and venial nature."

*Recommittals.*—"In my report for 1854, I was enabled to make a favourable remark on the great reduction which had taken place in the number of recommittals in that year as compared with 1853. The year 1855 contrasts, I am happy to say, in a much more favourable manner, although, no doubt, the diminution is to be attributed in a great degree to the large demand for troops which has taken place in the Crimea during the past twelve months."

| 1853. | | 1854. | | 1855. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No. of Prisoners Admitted. | Of these were Recommittals. | No. of Prisoners Admitted. | Of these were Recommittals. | No. of Prisoners Admitted. | Of these were Recommittals. |
| 288 | 119 | 362 | 104 | 358 | 50 |

*General Health.*—"It will be perceived by the accompanying reports of the medical officer, that the state of health of the prisoners has been particularly good during the past year."

*Provisions.*—"The provisions which have been supplied for the use of the prisoners under contracts entered into by the visitors, have been excellent in quality, and no instance has occurred during the entire year of any complaint on the part of the prisoners on this head."

*The Evening School.*—"The reports furnished quarterly by the chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Gardner, afford very gratifying statements as to the great progress which has been made, generally speaking, by such of the prisoners as have had the opportunity of attending the evening school, and he has informed me that in several instances the improvement has surpassed that made in the garrison school, although the latter has the great advantage of being constantly superintended by a regular trained schoolmaster.

"To be permitted to attend school is a boon eagerly desired by all the prisoners and particularly by the young soldiers; there is nothing here to distract their minds, and they assiduously apply themselves to make the most of the opportunities afforded them for improvement, and I regret that greater advantage cannot be more generally taken of this admirable appendage to the prison. The length of imprisonment is much shorter than it used to be. In 1854 there were only 46 men sentenced to periods under 30 days out of 362 admissions, whereas, in 1855 there were no less than 125 under 30 days out of 358, being more than one-third of the total number admitted: the consequence was, that by the time they became eligible to attend school by being promoted to the 2nd class, the remainder of their time was so short that they could derive very little benefit indeed from the instruction imparted to them.

"It might be advanced as a means of meeting this disadvantage, that the prisoners could be kept for a shorter period in the 3rd class, but I think it very desirable that every soldier received here should be retained sufficiently long in that class to give him a fair share of the severities of it.

"In thinking over this subject, it has occurred to me that it might be deemed advisable to a certain extent to modify the 168th article of the Rules and Regulations, which directs that the prisoners of the 3rd class shall be occupied in picking oakum from 6.15 to 7.45.

"What I would venture to take the liberty of suggesting is, that as the whole of the prisoners are divided into two wards, A and B, the prisoners of the 3rd class, not being recommittals and their names never having appeared in the prison defaulter book, might be allowed after the expiration of the first week of admission the indulgence of attending the school on alternate evenings; the prisoners of the 3rd class of A ward attending for three evenings in the week, and those of the B ward on the other three nights, being employed on the alternate evenings in picking oakum in their cells.

"I am fully aware that in advocating any measure for the moral and intellectual improvement of the prisoners, however desirable it may be, we must always bear in mind that it is not to be attained by a relaxation of the prisoners' punishment; but in the proposal I have presumed to make, this relaxation is very trivial, simply not being required to pick oakum in his cell for an hour and a half on three nights in the week; it would also act as a further incentive to good conduct in prison, as of course, a prisoner's name once appearing in the defaulter book would deprive him of the indulgence.

"I cannot conclude this report without mentioning the very good conduct which has been exhibited by the prisoners belonging to the different regiments of militia who have been admitted during the past year; this remark applies equally to the English and Irish regiments; their behaviour has been in almost every instance very commendable.

Number of militia regiments sending prisoners to this prison - - - - - - 14

Number of militia men admitted during the year - 72

Understanding that it is in contemplation of Government to furnish all the barracks in the United Kingdom with coir mattresses made from the cocoa nut fibre, in lieu of the straw paillasses at present in use, it has occurred to me, and I take the liberty of venturing the suggestion, whether in the event of this plan being decided upon, the prisoners in the whole of the military prisons might not be advantageously employed in picking the coir rope into fibre, ready for making the mattresses, in place of the junk on which they are now employed.

"I have, &c.

"H. B. Barnham, Captain,

"Governor."

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Limerick.— *Captain Edwardes.*

"Military Prison,

"My Lord, "Limerick, 26th January 1856.

"In compliance with the rules and regulations established for the government of Military Prisons, I have now the honour to make my report for the year that has just terminated.

"Permit me, then, in the first place to direct your lordship's notice once more to the position of the subordinate officers and servants, who, from age, ill health, or length of service, may not be retained in the Military Prison service. Several very valuable men, who have done the State much good service for a period little short of ten years, are now known to me, and I cannot but feel regret, that after their long and efficient service, they should have, when discharged, to return to their original positions, improved only by the *small* savings which they may have been able to accumulate. I am quite aware that the non-commissioned officer, *when* undertaking the duties of a warder, anticipates nothing beyond the liberal daily

pay guaranteed to him for the period of his service; after he has laboured, however, for some years, the consciousness of excellent and trustworthy conduct induces him to think that he is entitled to some further recompence. Under this impression I have no scruple in saying that any measure calculated to attach the subordinate officer or servant to the prison service, and to remove the present temptation to seek for employment elsewhere, would, in every way, prove extremely beneficial.

"I am led to believe that, in addressing your Lordship upon the present occasion, I am not restricted in my remarks to my own immediate sphere of duty, but at liberty freely to speak upon any subject in connection with the general system of military punishments which may occur to me as admitting of alteration and improvement. Availing myself, then, of this supposed privilege, I would beg to submit to your Lordship's consideration the expediency of not appointing militia officers as visitors—an arrangement that I have noticed with regret during the last twelve months. The point is, of course, a delicate one for me, in my present position, to discuss. May I be permitted, however, to observe that as the Articles of War exclude militia officers from sitting on the court-martial of any officer or soldier belonging to the regular forces, very serious inconveniences may arise if due care be not taken so to constitute the visitorial body that such officers in no case shall form the majority of those selected. This will, I think, at once appear, when it is remembered what uncontrolled power is vested in the visitor, by some of the clauses in the rules and regulations for military prisons. Nor should it be forgotten that the mistakes which may occur from a visitor's want of military experience and acquaintance with the 'peculiar character imparted to the soldier by regimental habits,' are not to be prevented or rectified by the governor, who, from his subordinate position, cannot possibly interfere.

"My former long connection with the army has invariably made me anxious to keep before me, in my present appointment, its interest and welfare, and I have always considered that whenever an effort is made to procure for a prisoner a mitigation of his sentence, on the *sole* ground of his orderly behaviour while under punishment, the good of the service is not sufficiently consulted. Not, indeed, that I would be understood to advocate the long terms of imprisonment not unfrequently awarded to the offenders; on the contrary, my observation induces me to wish that a greater disposition were shown by courts-martial to lessen by degrees the period of that confinement, which after a time, I am convinced, ceases to be irksome.

"Any system which leads us to treat men as mere machines rather than as intelligent creatures and capable of reflection, must in the very nature of things be defective. In many cases, as recorded in the commitments sent to me, sufficient care has not been taken, prior to awarding sentence, to weigh well the prisoner's character and history—a circumstance that too often defeats one of the principal objects of the punishment inflicted, so far at least

as the prisoner himself is concerned; for a bad man, at times, is found to be visited with a shorter punishment for a serious crime, than a good man for what is, comparatively, a trifling offence.

"Again, in sentences awarded in the three different districts which send prisoners to this institution, there is not that harmony which is essential to the accomplishment of the ends of justice; in one, for instance, the maximum of punishment is invariably awarded for an offence which, if committed in another, would have entailed only the minimum.

"The baneful effects of war are, even within the walls of a military prison, quite perceptible, as unquestionably the 'raw material,' which is now supplying the ranks in our army, is both morally and physically inferior to that which was previously obtained.

"This is a fact, upon which they who, from whatever cause, are prejudiced against the army, may very profitably reflect. It is, to say the least, a very conclusive refutation of the statement, that the labourer or the artizan in becoming a soldier surrenders every opportunity of elevating his condition and character. The degraded state of ignorance of the recruits sent to this prison is indeed striking; it appears that of these *young* prisoners, 261 in number, only 106 were, *nominally*, able to read, to say nothing of the manifold other indications of previous neglect. The increase observable in the number of those committed for disgraceful conduct is moreover an evident proof of the same truth, and, while answering the objections of such as denounce the calling of a soldier, must convince all who are interested in the welfare of the army, that nothing is more devoutly to be desired than the termination of those hostilities which have thus deranged and checked the influences which were so very successfully ministering, prior to the war, to the welfare and progress of our soldiers, and encouraging us to hope that, whenever called to active service, the British army would not only maintain its heroic fame, but win for itself, in the midst of its deeds of gallantry, the credit of being the best-conducted body of armed men in Europe.

"Although our recruits, or at least those of them who come here as prisoners, appear to me to have deteriorated, still they are by no means a hopeless set; indeed, with the great majority, there is every prospect of their becoming useful and obedient soldiers; they possess chords of feeling which can be touched, and as those *now* over them are not apathetic, they soon discover that their *real* interests are regarded, and respond accordingly. Even in my limited field gratifying results have attended, on some occasions, this regard to the prisoners' disposition, and I have been rewarded by seeing much outward improvement.

"I have, &c.

"HUME EDWARDES, Captain."

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GREENLAW.—*Major Campbell.*

*Recommittals.*—"I continue to entertain the same opinion as expressed in my previous reports, viz., that no prisoner should be

committed to a military prison after a third time, but if again convicted before a court-martial, it would be for the good of his regiment, and for the benefit of the public service, that he should be sent to a civil jail to undergo the sentence of his court-martial, and at the expiration of the same be discharged with ignominy, as undeserving of longer serving in the British army."

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## APPENDIX D.

### Extracts from the Reports of the Medical Officers of Military Prisons.

#### Fort Clarence.—*Dr. Lopin.*

"At the close of another year, and in the third of my assuming charge of this establishment, I have the honour of transmitting my report for the year 1855; and I have much pleasure in being able to give a favourable account of the medical transactions for the past year. Taking the health of the prisoners, in a general sense of the word good, I think I can with safety state it as such; and those diseases that have occurred in the prison, and which I shall enumerate, have not, or could I discern, be traced either to the discipline or to the diet of the prison; nor has any disease been, either permanently or temporarily, increased from either of these causes."

#### Gosport.—*Dr. Smythe.*

"The *Regulations* and discipline have been carried out in accordance with the authorized strictness; nevertheless, with every feeling of humanity and kindness consistent with justice."

*Diet.*—"The usual daily allowances, composed of the same articles, have been as heretofore continued, and although they may not in my opinion prove detrimental to the prisoners, they certainly do not add to the physical strength of the recipients.

"I was, therefore, the more pleased, when during the first quarter of the year an authority arrived for shortening the period, for an increase of diet from 84 to 56 days; and that especially in the instances of growing lads, and men required for immediate service or embarkation."

"Two cases have been reported as having terminated fatally in Portsmouth Garrison Hospital, viz., private John Bateman, 7th regiment Fusiliers, aged 22 years, the subject of five previous imprisonments; of scrofulous habit of body and predisposed to phthisis. After 20 days' subjection to the discipline he began to exhibit symptoms of pulmonary tubercular disease, was consequently removed for treatment, and eventually fell a victim to an attack of erysipelas of the head."

"The other death was occasioned by a sudden attack of dysentery."

"I can safely affirm, that in neither case the discipline or dietary of the prison in any way contributed to the origin or result of the affections.'"

"As the winter came on with intense cold and severe frost, I recommended an increase of nightly clothing to the men deprived of their bedding."

WEEDON.—*Hugh Fraser, Surgeon.*

*Health.*—"The health of the prisoners throughout the year has been excellent. No disease has been generated from either the diet or discipline of the prison, both of which have continued to be conducted in strict conformity to the established rules of the prison."

*Prison Dietary.—The Sunday meat dinner.*—"The stomach, weakened from long habitude to farinaceous food, becomes more or less unfit to receive, suddenly, the 10 ounces of meat contained in this dinner. The consequence is, that crude fractions of it escape into the bowels, where they excite colic pains, which require for their removal an active purge.

"To obviate this, it is recommended that the meat be divided into equal portions; one portion to be served out on Sunday, the other portion on the following Wednesday.

"By this means, the full nutrition of the food would be better secured to the system."

*Hard Labour Diet.*—"I consider that this scale of diet is short in nutritive quantity; because, the major part of prisoners fed upon it for 40 days, or more, lose weight, and which loss never fails to be quickly repaired upon promotion to the 1st class, or upon otherwise being ordered extra full diet.

"To obviate the loss of weight, it is most probable that this diminution in the weight of prisoners might be averted by the daily addition of one pint of good warm coffee being issued to each man at his supper meal.

"Professor Johnstone, in a late work on the 'Chemistry of Common Life,' has, after the most careful chemico-physiological analysis, adduced irrefragable evidence that coffee possesses the three following very important virtues, virtues rendering its introduction into prison dietary most applicable. *First*, coffee directly allays hunger; *secondly*, it retards the change of matter, and so diminishes the amount of bodily waste in a given time; *thirdly*, when drank with the grounds, as it is always so drank in Turkey, is directly nutritious, the grounds containing a portion of gluten.

"These being the properties of coffee, as shown by the most competent analysts of the day, I have no hesitation in submitting the theory of their action to the consideration of the Secretary-at-War; and to solicit that a trial of a coffee beverage be allowed to be instituted in this prison. I recommend that one ounce of ground coffee, with one ounce of sugar, be formed into a pint of coffee for each man, and to be served out at the supper meal.

"I am aware of the impropriety of tampering with punishment; I do not consider that an addition of a pint of coffee to the present scale of prison diet would be doing so. On the contrary, I am disposed to expect beneficial results from such a grant.

"Looking at the expense of the coffee it is not supposed that the gross amount of prison expenditure would be increased, as, if the anticipated results from the coffee be realised, there will be little necessity to resort to extra full diet. In this indirect way, therefore, may the expense of the coffee be covered. I am of opinion that it would be so covered. Let a trial be made."

DEVONPORT.—*Surgeon Moffatt.*

"The prison, as I have stated in a former report, is in itself a most perfect model prison, with every degree of comfort that can be desired, and well suited for the accommodation of 34 prisoners. The cells are lofty and well ventilated, and the temperature of the prison ranging between 50 and 60 of Fahrenheit's thermometer, through the winter months; and if an additional bed should be required, it could, without injury to the health of its inmates, be placed in each cell without any inconvenience whatsoever."

*The General Health of the Prisoners.*—"The general health of the prisoners during the year ending 31st December 1855, has been remarkably good, no disease of a contagious character having made its appearance within the precincts of the prison, and the generality of such cases as have been treated required only a day or two exemption from duty to effect a cure."

*The Prison Regulations.*—"The prison regulations are carried out to the letter, under the strict, and, I may add, humane surveillance of the chief warder Mr. Braid, and the warders placed under his superintendence; notwithstanding which, the comforts and wants of the prisoners are regularly attended to."

*Diet.*—"The scale of diet laid down by the prison regulations is of the best description of its kind; wholesome and good, and, in my opinion, amply sufficient to support the health and strength of the prisoners, so as to enable them to undergo their different sentences; some cases have, however, occurred, requiring an increase of diet from falling off of weight; they were chiefly young lads, recruits without much stamina."

*Strength of Prisoners.*—"Remained last annual return, 19; since admitted, 185;—total, 204; average daily strength, 18; average daily sick, 2; 18 men were marked with the letter D, in my presence, and, on being dismissed from prison, the marks appeared perfect and indelible; 15 men only have been placed on extra diet during the year."

GREENLAW.—*Dr. Campbell.*

*General Health.*—"In furnishing the Report with the medical transactions for the year 1855, I beg, in the first place, to remark

that although the number of sick is more than last year, yet from the admissions being 330, whilst those of last year were 215, proportionately the present year is much less than the last, and the general health is satisfactory."

*Discipline.*—"The discipline, according to the Regulations, was kept up most firmly; the officers and servants very attentive and indefatigable in the performance of their duties."

*Diet.*—"The diet was of the best description as to the quality, and as to the quantity, sufficient, with the exception of some men who had lost so much weight, that I considered it necessary to give them the usual increased diet.

"Potatoes in lieu of bread on Sundays, for the 1st class, was the only alteration, and in some dyspeptic cases bread in lieu of meal was given."

*Weight.*—"The loss of weight has been more favourable than any preceding year, the average being 6l lbs. 10½ oz. This may be attributed to the admission of young soldiers.

*Bedding.*—"Deprivation of bedding, to prisoners admitted the first week, as I have already remarked in former Reports, is most severely felt, and I have no doubt is a great weight on the minds of prisoners."

DUBLIN.—*Dr. Tuffnell.*

*Sanitary condition of the Prison.*—"The sanitary condition of the prisoners of this prison, during the past year, has been excellent, and the Statistical Tables will be found to exhibit the most satisfactory results."

*Effects of Discipline.*—"The system of punishments hitherto in use has been continued precisely as before, without the slightest injurious effect upon the mind or body of any man subjected to it, although the class of offenders has been of far more delicate and weakly frames than any during previous years."

*Effects of Diet.*—"With reference to the effects of the prison diet, upon those subjected to its influence, it has been very good. 751 prisoners have been discharged during the year, of whom 195 have gained, upon an average, $2\frac{11}{65}$ lbs. per man, and 24 have neither gained nor lost.

"The number that has lost weight, during confinement, has been 532, averaging $4\frac{375}{532}$ lbs. each, a result more favourable even than last year.

"In no single instance has any deviation from the ordinary prison scale (as set down in the 4th page of the Return) been made, or any increase been given."

*Extra Articles issued for the Sick.*—"The extra articles issued for the use of the sick in hospital, have been the following, viz:

| | |
|---|---|
| Arrow-Root - - - | 2½ lbs. |
| Sugar - - - | 3 „ |

*Cost of Messing.*—"The expense of the messing of the prisoners during the past year, has averaged per man, per day, $3\frac{3}{4}d.$

"Of the number of prisoners discharged, 676 have been subjected to hard labour; 70 to mixed punishment of hard labour with solitary confinement; and 5 to solitary confinement alone.

"Of the whole number, 8 were exempted from shot drill, on account of disabilities referred to in the medical certificates attached to their committals, and 3 from hard labour of any kind, for similar causes.

"No prisoner has been exempted from hard labour, (except those under medical treatment,) whilst in prison, for disability contracted there."

*Marking Deserters with D.*—"Eighty-four deserters have been marked during the year; of these, 70 have been discharged, all having the letter D. distinct and clear. The remainder are still in prison undergoing their sentences. Indian ink has been used as the pigment or colouring matter, to the exclusion of all others, it being found to be much more penetrating, and conspicuous.

"In one or two instances of re-committals, I have detected attempts having been made at removal by means of repeated blistering, but all have failed to remove the mark."

*Clothing.*—"The use of the waistcoat by the prisoners was discontinued on the 21st of June, and resumed on the 5th of October."

*Flogging.*—"Having now during a period of eight years substituted many parades for punishment, I can testify that I have never seen the slightest ill effects produced by it, but I have witnessed the most marked difference in the conduct of men afterwards.

"I have seen violent, insolent, insubordinate and abusive characters, who refused to listen to all advice from the Governor and Chaplain, become civil and well conducted, after being flogged, during the remainder of their sentence.

"As for any ill effect produced upon the back of the culprit, it is usually so trifling that the prisoner resumes his duty on the third day.

"Malingering has been rather more than usually attempted, but in each instance without success, although some have carried their endeavours on most systematically and steadily."

### Cork.—*Surgeon Bain.*

*Rations and Diet.*—"The prisoners' rations, which have been of good quality, I consider to be both wholesome and nutritious, and in quantity sufficient to enable them to perform all the hard labour duties of the prison. In no instance during the year have I found it necessary to exempt a prisoner from any punishment on account of debility caused by deficient nourishment; on the contrary, many (more particularly old drunkards and young soldiers who have lately joined) have improved both in health and strength under its use."

*Extra Diet to Prisoners after long Confinement.*—"Although I am of opinion that the usual prison diet is quite sufficient to keep the prisoners in health, and fit for all the ordinary garrison duties on their discharge; yet, under present circumstances, in order that the soldier may be held in a still more efficient state, if required, for immediate service, I have recommended 'Extra Diet' to all the prisoners, without exception, who had completed 56 days in confinement, in accordance with the War-Office Circular of the 6th of March 1855, and the result has been a considerable diminution in the average loss of weight of those discharged."

*Shot Drill.*—"Only 12 of the prisoners have been permanently exempted from 'Shot Drill,' on account of disabilities contracted previous to committal to prison; two from general debility, three being ruptured, two having a tendency to that disease, and five others showing symptoms of disease of the heart."

*Effects of Prison Discipline on the Health of the Prisoners.*—"It will appear, from what is above stated, that in no instance during the past year has any injury to health, either mental or bodily, been caused by the nature of the prisoners' diet, the discipline of the prison, or any of the punishments to which they have been subjected; on the contrary, as I have often before remarked, many improve both in health and constitution during their confinement, and, with three exceptions, all were, in my opinion, perfectly fit to perform all their ordinary garrison duties when the term of their imprisonment had expired."

LIMERICK.—*Dr. Gore.*

"When this ratio of sick to the number of prisoners is compared with the ratio of sick to the number of inhabitants of the city where the prison is situated, physical causes, having sanitary principles as their bases, must be considered as the elements which retard the intrusions of disease amid the inhabitants of the prison. This view is strengthened by the fact that, amid the epidemics which have prevailed in the city of Limerick, and at no great distance from the prison walls, the inmates have been exempt from their influences. Cholera, fever, small pox, scarlatina, measles have all existed in turn since 1854, yet has the prison remained unvisited by any one of them. Must we not conclude that the absence of drink, that regular exercise, constant occupancy, wholesome sustaining food, personal cleanliness, pure air, proper ventilation, suppressed irritability in the silent discharge of punishment, a well-drained and well-conducted prison, must all tend to maintain health, prevent disease, or modify its character. My experience enables me to state that I believe all these causes have had their effects in sustaining a high healthy character for this prison, and expose a useful lesson to those who construct temporary or permanent abodes for the soldier, or hospitals for the sick. I believe there are neither barracks or hospitals in this kingdom in which sanitary principles have so free a scope for the preservation of health, or the modification of the vice of disease, as in this military prison."

*Solitary Confinement.*—"In regard to punishment I am led to believe that 'Solitary Confinement' is that most difficult to endure. Men, when put into the cells for 'observation' for supposed diseases, soon desire to be liberated to duty, *and the fear of this test* keeps the daily sick report free from malingers; it is a safe and a good practice. I have not known men return a second time to such trial, when they find that supposed or feigned indispositions are not to be cured by medicine and excused duty, or that the medical officer is not likely to be imposed upon easily."

*Shot Drill.*—"In respect to 'Shot Drill,' its efficacy as a punishment, and its safety as such, have been written upon with great diversity of opinion. Soon after the first few days' exercise it ceases, I think, to be so severe. The mind is occupied in watching the instructions, many muscles which, under ordinary circumstances, have trifling action, are called into vigorous activity, and a considerable amount of bodily fatigue is produced; the latter two cannot fail to be punishment, the first prevents the listlessness which it is thought accompanies the practice. No bad consequences have arisen from it during the year. Its moral effects I believe to be good."

*Food.*—"The prisoners' food has been good in quality, and the quantity and nature of the individual supply sufficient to preserve health; modifications having been made, according to rule, to suit peculiar cases and to prevent constitutional deterioration, the quantity scale and the quality modification being ample and appropriate, when judiciously administered, to meet the necessity of any case which could arise.

"In regard to 'food' I have an observation to make which I do not think unimportant. The present advanced state of chemical and physiological science show that different sorts of food supply different elements for the building up of the various bodily structures; some, elements for *muscular* growth, others for fatty development. The muscular system being called upon to contribute liberally towards the punishment of prisoners, it should be well sustained. It is notorious that peas food supplies the largest quantity of *nitrogen*, which is the peculiar element upon which muscle depends for its growth. I am of opinion, therefore, that a small quantity of 'peas meal,' added to the Indian corn food, would be an important addition to its nutritive quality."

LONDON:
Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.